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FOR GOD AND COUNTRY

January 1992

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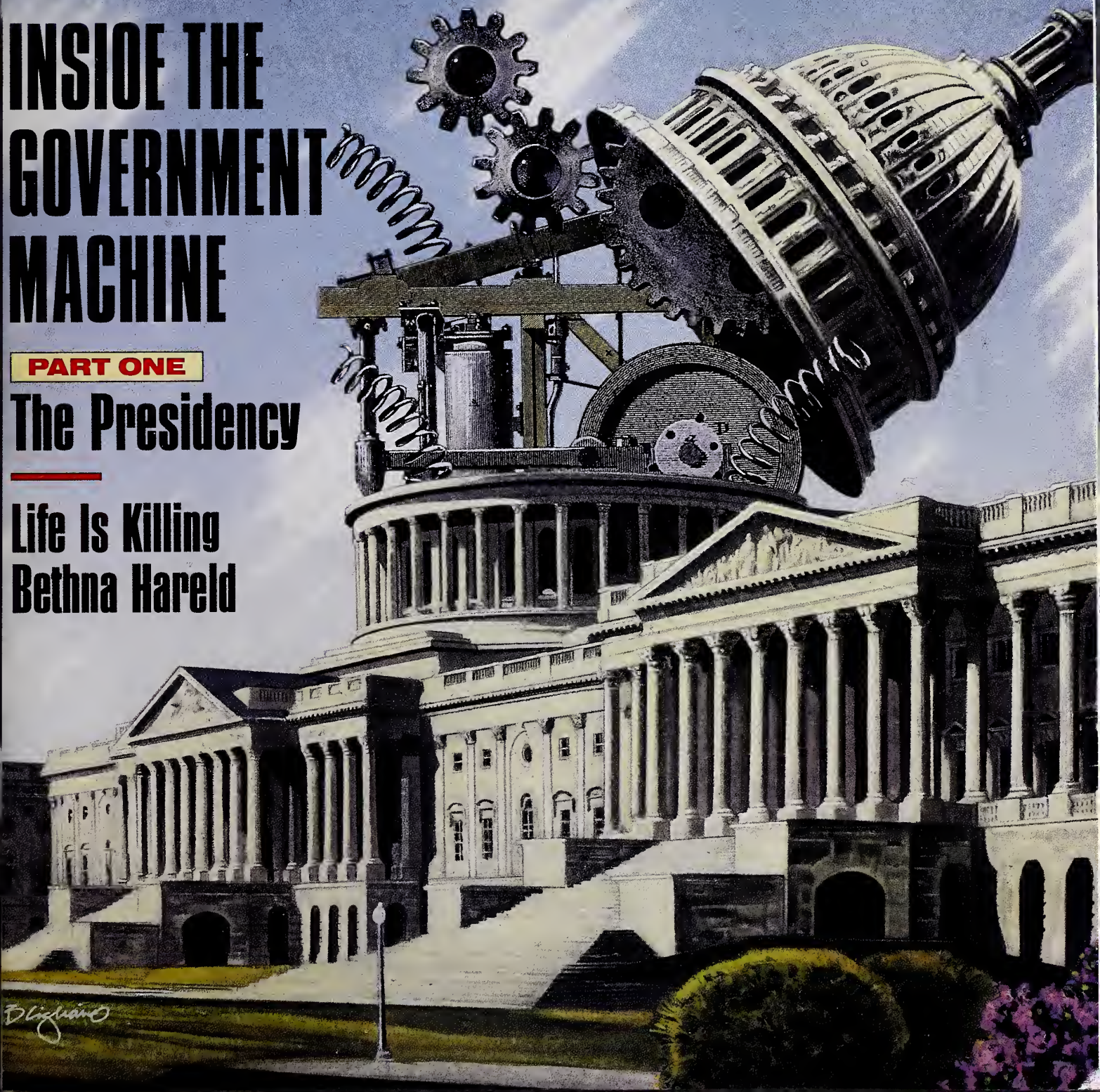
FALL
MEETINGS
P. 26

INSIDE THE GOVERNMENT MACHINE

PART ONE

The Presidency

Life Is Killing
Bethna Hareld



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THE AMERICAN LEGION

The Magazine for a Strong America

Vol. 132, No. 1

January 1992

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THE AMERICAN LEGION MAGAZINE, a leader among national general-interest publications, is published monthly by The American Legion for its 3.1 million members. These military-service veterans, working through more than 15,000 community-level posts, dedicate themselves to God and country and traditional American values; strong national security; adequate and compassionate care for veterans, their widows and orphans; community service; and the wholesome development of our nation's youths.

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National Commander
Dominic D. DiFrancesco

Publisher/Editor-in-Chief

Daniel S. Wheeler

Editor

John Greenwald

Managing Editor

Miles Z. Epstein

Associate Editor

Raymond H. Mahon

Assistant Editors

**Ken Scharnberg, David E. Nixon
T. Douglas Donaldson**

Art Director

Simon Smith

Art Assistant

Ann Reeder

Photojournalist

John E. Simon

Production Manager

William L. Poff

Administration

Kathy Ferrer, Joan L. Berzins

Advertising Director

Donald B. Thomson

Advertising Assistants

Diane Andretti, Robyn Black

The American Legion Magazine

P.O. Box 7068
Indianapolis, IN 46207
317-635-8411

Publisher's Representatives

Fox Associates, Inc.

Chicago: 312-644-3888
New York: 212-725-2106
Los Angeles: 213-487-5630
Detroit, MI: 313-543-0068
Atlanta: 404-252-0968
San Francisco: 415-989-5804

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☐ I will make my reservation at a later date.

Signature _____

OFFER EXPIRES MIDNIGHT FEBRUARY 21, 1992 C9815 AL

Bilingual Education

I read the articles ("Double Talk" and Barriers of Bilingual Education," October) and I'm sure that learning the English language while trying to learn the lessons taught in the classrooms can be quite a problem for children.

They should get help, but let's not lose sight of the fact that this is America and English is the language of this country.

If the parents want to teach children the customs of their native land so they won't lose their ethnic heritage—fine—but let's teach English in the classroom and not waste tax dollars teaching a language children will learn at home from their parents.

*Joe Powell
Fort Wayne, Ind.*

In reference to ("Barriers of Bilingual Education," October), I find the article insulting, degrading and racist. Your observation on bilingual education and "Official English" is without foundation and discriminates against Hispanic veterans who have fought and died in America's wars.

Hispanics are very patriotic and have proven themselves on foreign battlefields by earning more Medals of Honor than any other ethnic group on a per capita basis. There has never been a Hispanic deserter while fighting our country's wars.

We realize that English is the international language and is imperative in order to succeed and the key to a prosperous and fruitful life. However, in areas close to the Mexican border, Spanish is still the predominate language and bilingual education is the only method of instruction to successfully transpose Spanish to English for thousands of school children into the American way of life.

*Rene Ramirez
Cotulla, Texas*

Free Them

I believe Col. Millard Peck's statements ("Report From Phoenix," November) that American servicemen are alive and being held in Southeast Asia. We Legionnaires should really raise a commotion. The Legion should

get all the media coverage it can.

During World War II, I was told I was expendable, which really shocked me. But now I see the "write off" attitude of the government, especially in people like New York Rep. Stephen J. Solarz who is now getting his way and having the United States establish formal trade relations with Vietnam.

VETVOICE

WE WANT YOUR OPINIONS

You can contact The American Legion Magazine two ways. Call us at:

1-900-28-VOICE

to record your opinions, vote on current issues, and listen to opinions of others. Calls cost \$1 per minute and proceeds support Legion programs. An editor of THE AMERICAN LEGION MAGAZINE will hear your comments. Callers' opinions are considered for publication and receive a ☒ symbol when published.

Or you can write to:

**The American Legion Magazine
P.O. Box 1055
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Each month, the magazine asks readers to vote and voice their opinion on two questions. This month's questions:

Are the "politically correct" too powerful in America? (See page 22.)

Should Congress approve the "motor-voter" registration bill? (See page 10.)

Here's how you've voted on previous questions:

Do you believe the Strategic Defense Initiative should receive more funding?

Yes 71% No 29%

Should Japanese officials be invited to celebrations of the 50th anniversary of Pearl Harbor in Hawaii?

Yes 7% No 93%

1-900-28-VOICE

Our government should come right out and say "give us back our men alive, and then you can have trade relations." For God's sake, please make the effort now before it's too late. If I were being held over there, I think I would hate my country for what it's done to me.

I now tell my grandchildren to stay out of future wars because this government will abandon you if you're captured. As a single individual, I don't have the power to shake the government, but the Legion does. Hopefully something can be done about this.

☒ *Newton W. Stephen
Kingston, Mass.*

Media Masher

Your article ("Military Vs. The Media," November) includes a photo caption of Gen. Norman Schwarzkopf that stated he used the media's ignorance of the military to his advantage.

I would be immensely surprised and deeply disappointed if he did not.

*Keith N. Balfour
Celina, Ohio*

Beyond Borders

I wish George Roche ("For The People," November) would leave his ivory castle and spend some time near the Mexican-U.S. border. There one can experience the fruits of a totally free market economy where no civil authority intervenes. The rivers are dead, the air is toxic, workers make barely enough to live on.

The EPA, OSHA and NLRB were created by the demands of working American citizens to protect themselves.

*Leland Gamson
Marion, Ind.*

Expanding Powers

Nothing could better illustrate why the framers of the U.S. Constitution included a broad "right to bear arms" provision than the letter (Vetvoice, July) from a purported FBI agent advocating a ban on all handguns and all semi-automatic long guns.

Please turn page

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The founding fathers understood the inevitable drive of governments to expand their powers at the expense of the liberties of individual citizens. They also recognized the continuing tendency of civil servants, some of them well-intentioned, to put the efficient performance of their duties above all else.

Neither governments nor bureaucrats have changed and the Second Amendment fulfills the same valid purpose today as it did 200 years ago.

*Thomas P. Breen Jr.
McHenry, Ill.*

Mistaken Identity

I am afraid you badly need a Marine on your editorial staff or at least someone who knows a Marine when he sees one.

On page 14, the caption and the story ("Alpharetta Remembers," November) refer to Army 1st Lt. Bobby Cagle.

But Cagle is a Marine officer, as is plainly evident from his uniform. Also, the Iwo Jima monument, although inspired by the famous photo of the Iwo Jima flag raising, is, in fact, the "Marine Corps War Memorial," and it honors Marines of all wars as the battle honors on the frieze of the pediment clearly demonstrate.

*E. H. Simmons
Brigadier General
U.S. Marine Corps, Retired*

Editor's Note: Gen. Simmons is, indeed, correct. First Lt. Bobby Cagle is a Marine. We apologize for the error, especially to Cagle and the Corps.

See The Seaplane

I especially enjoyed the September WWII issue of the magazine. The Japanese seaplane on page 58 is a Kawanishi 22 Emily. That is, what's left of it.

*Conley F. Taylor
Carlisle, Ark.*

I suspect that many former B-24 crew members are enjoying a chuckle over the response received from the picture of the downed flying boat.

The wing on the pictured flying boat

does resemble the Davis wing of the B-24, which was greatly responsible for enabling that airplane to fly higher, faster, farther, and carry a larger payload than the famous B-17.

If anyone still is not convinced of the identity of the flying boat, they should look closely at the chines visible on the hull, which are common to boats and flying boats. The B-24 was not designed for water landings.

*Harold E. Sleight
Washougal, Wash.*

No To Non-veterans

The only people, in addition to veterans, who should be cared for at VA facilities (Sound Off, November) should be we wives whose lives were disrupted whenever our husbands were called back. Veterans, and their families, should be treated before civilians.

*Mary Marrs
Kerrville, Texas*

To be categorized as mandatory for treatment is not a ticket to assured treatment in a VA hospital or an outpatient clinic. VA treatment is an unenforced mandate. The system has not changed for those of us still in it. VA is on a steady decline. It remains our lot to face delay, to face denial, and to face being ignored.

*William C. Murphy
Dryden, Mich.*

I am ticked off. I have lost free medical aid that was promised to me and my wife in the early '50s. I was told if I retired from the military I would receive this care for the rest of my life. I have lost travel pay, with the first 26 miles going and coming from the hospital not paid. I have lost some burial benefits. I have to pay for my own disability, but no other federal worker does this. The cover-up of Agent Orange affects me because I had two tours in Vietnam.

Members of Congress, the administration and other federal workers who are not veterans use military hospitals for treatment, physicals and diagnosis—I think for free. This is wrong. They take up space that veterans and their families are entitled to and certainly

should have priority on. I am so ticked off that I will never serve this country again, even in a state of national emergency.

V *Joe D. McBride
Leaf River, Ill.*

In Response

I came across the letter (Vetvoice, November) stating that nowhere in the September WWII issue of the magazine was a black soldier.

I read that issue from cover to cover and found a picture on page 32, an ad that had all races depicted on page 85, and also a short paragraph about the draft lottery and racial segregation on page 26. Black Americans were not all that visible in World War II because of racial segregation in those days.

I, for one, enjoyed that issue so much. I re-read it and then passed it along to my son to read.

Thanks again for the great stories so well done.

*Beverly A. Hensley
Jackson, Mich.*

Defense Or Less?

I am against cutting our U.S. military defense (Sound Off, November). I support a strong national defense. Our Armed Forces should be strong at all times.

*Ralph Blodgett
New Milford, Pa.*

Remember Pearl

I'm a Gulf War veteran and currently in the U.S. Air Force stationed at Elmendorf AFB in Anchorage, Alaska. I do not believe Japanese officials should be invited to the celebrations of the 50th anniversary of Pearl Harbor. (Sound Off, October). I have relatives who fought during World War II and remember the pain and suffering that occurred there Dec. 7, 1941, and during World War II. Having Japanese officials there would make a mockery of our servicemen, past and present.

V *Matthew Betera
Elmendorf AFB
Anchorage, Alaska*

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*Be strong!
It matters not how deep entrenched
the wrong,
How hard the battle goes, the day
how long;
Faint not—fight on! Tomorrow comes
the song.*
"Be Strong" by Maltbie D. Babcock

S KILLED military commanders used to use dirt drawings to describe the coming battle to their officers. While computer simulations may have replaced these lines in the sand, the principle remains the same: A good strategy is the difference between victory and defeat.

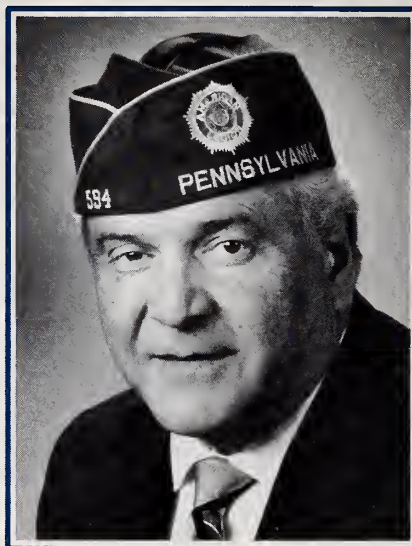
Fellow Legionnaires, as we enter a new year, it is essential that The American Legion plan for the challenges that lie ahead.

POW/MIAs. Veterans Benefits. The Flag. The Korean War Veterans Memorial. Membership. These are some of my concerns as we embark on our offensives for 1992.

POW/MIAs. Year after year, the debate continues: Are there American prisoners of war still held in Southeast Asia?

Part of our shared duty is to ensure that the people who fought side by side with us to protect this great nation—the MIAs from the Korean and Vietnam wars—are not forgotten. Together, fellow Legionnaires, we must fight the temptation to put the Vietnam War behind us and re-establish diplomatic relations with the Socialist Republic of Vietnam.

The U.S. State Department confirms that American oil companies have been leading a charge to normalize relations with Vietnam, a country that could produce as much as 1.5 billion to 3 billion barrels of oil, according to a recent report. And our nation's move-



Nat'l Cmdr. Dominic D. DiFrancesco

ment towards re-establishing ties with Vietnam is based on a document known as "the roadmap."

Prepared by the U.S. State Department, it says that relations between the United States and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam will be dependent upon a settlement in Cambodia and a full accounting of POW/MIAs. The settlement with Cambodia is already under way. If the United States moves too soon towards relations with Vietnam, the POW/MIA issue will be buried.

HAVING served our country on the fields of battle, these POW/MIAs from the Korean and Vietnam wars deserve more than a monument. They deserve more than a legacy of failure that has dragged on for almost 20 years. They deserve a full accounting. As members of the nation's largest veterans' organization, we must continue to believe that every MIA is alive until proved dead.

Veterans Benefits. As it stands, VA plans to fill some of its rural hospital beds with non-veterans early this year.

Year after year, VA has told The American Legion that there are no extra beds to treat the veterans who have been turned away for budget reasons. We must make sure that the VA uses its facilities to help the growing number of veterans who have been denied medical care. How can VA fill its beds with non-veterans when there aren't nearly enough for veterans?

According to the VA Commission on the Future Structure of Health Care, the VA needs to increase its hospital beds from 60,000 to 80,000 and it desperately needs more money. One way to increase the revenue of VA would be for the government to reimburse Medicare payments of veterans to the VA medical centers that treat them. In the 1991 Fall Meeting, The National Executive Committee of the Legion approved Res. 24, which supports this idea.

The Legion opposes the treating of non-veterans in VA facilities. We need to see that VA remembers its primary responsibility: America's veterans.

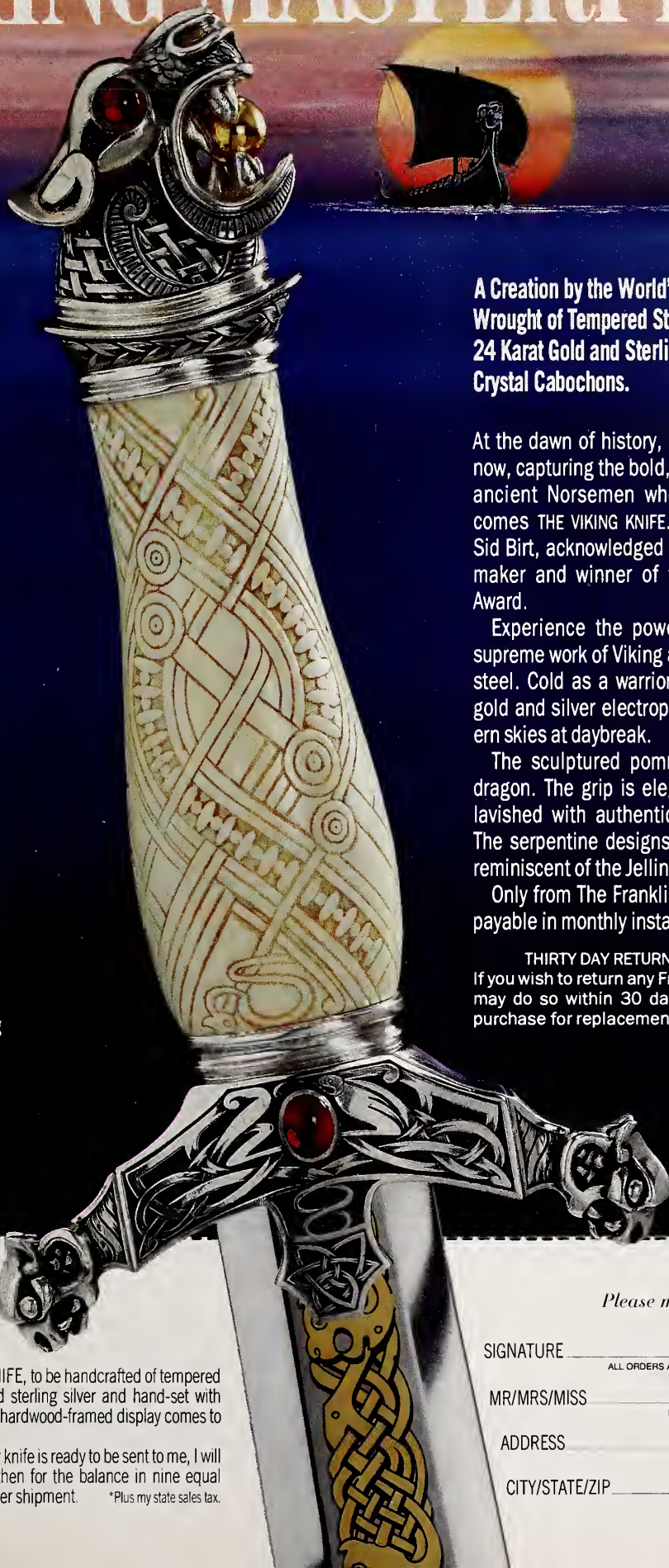
The Flag. "It speaks of patriots and heroes among the living and among the dead. He must be cold indeed who can look upon its folds, rippling in the breeze, without pride of country." Indeed, these words from "The Flag of Our Country," a short essay by Robert C. Winthrop, hold a special meaning for Legionnaires.

The Flag of our country was the banner under which we all fought. It is a symbol, a monument to all that has been sacrificed in the name of democracy and freedom. Together we must push for a constitutional amendment to outlaw desecration of the American Flag.

The Legion is coordinating an effort at the state level to pass memorializing resolutions that urge Congress to adopt a Flag amendment. So far, the Legion has persuaded 22 states to adopt resolutions supporting a Flag amendment. We

Please turn to page 66

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SHOULD CONGRESS APPROVE THE 'MOTOR-VOTER' BILL?

Sen. Wendell H. Ford, D-Kentucky

In the 1990 elections, only 36 percent of eligible citizens voted—the lowest turnout since 1942. Voter participation has been steadily declining since 1960.

We can reverse this situation by removing complicated barriers to registration, and that is why I have introduced the “motor-voter” bill.

My legislation will allow a person to vote when applying for or renewing a driver's license by mail or at many public offices. This bill will make registration readily available to over 90 percent of eligible citizens. In presidential elections, voter turnout of registered citizens is about 80 percent, which demonstrates that people who register, do indeed vote.

Motor-voter registration is cost-efficient. Washington, D.C., recently adopted “motor-voter” at the cost of 6 cents per registered voter. Critics argue it will cost the states millions, including the computerization of registration lists. They ignore that 92 percent of registered voters already are on computerized roles.

Additionally, voter registration will be year-round, negating the need for extra registration staff before elections. The Congressional Budget Office estimates a savings of between \$7 million and \$10 million.

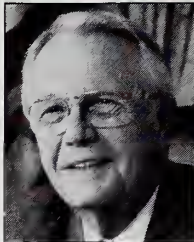
Sen. Mitch McConnell and others argue that low voter turnout is a sign of public contentment. The reality is that nearly 40 percent of eligible voters are not registered. Low voter turnout is a result of restrictive registration practices. The current system punishes those who choose not to vote by removing their names from registration lists. My bill does not.

It establishes procedures to prevent voter fraud and protect the integrity of the system. And, for the first time, this bill makes voter fraud a federal crime with stringent criminal penalties.

The purpose of elections in this country is to determine the will of the majority. This bill knocks down practices that frustrate the free vote of its citizens.

My bill won't force citizens to vote if they are frustrated by the candidates or issues. But it will remove barriers keeping people away from the ballot box. It won't guarantee an increase in voter participation, but it will increase the pool of eligible voters and give every eligible American a chance to participate in our democratic process. ☐

YES



Sen. Mitch McConnell, R-Kentucky



NO

There are two sure means of increasing turnout: coercion and bribery. The “motor-voter” bill is based on the unsupported theory that making voting extremely easy will compel even political couch potatoes to roll out and vote.

To set up this uniform voter registration system will cost states millions of dollars—money that might otherwise be spent on better health care, education and child nutrition. The motor-voter bill dumps this huge expense on state governments at a time when many are being forced to shut down vital services, furlough workers and raise taxes. Proponents of this bill say the cost is worth it because it will register more voters. Perhaps. However, it does not follow that those so registered will drive to the polls and actually vote on election day.

A study prepared by the bi-partisan Committee for the Study of the American Electorate found that “Declining voter participation cannot be attributed to problems in registration and voting law, since it has occurred during a time when registration and voting law generally has been altered to make registration and voting easier.” There is no concrete evidence that the motor-voter bill will increase turnout; in fact, there is ample indication that it will not.

Devoid of facts to justify the bill, supporters resort to passionate speeches deploring our voter turnout. Voices boom, “Even the Soviet Union had a higher turnout in their presidential election.” Of course, in the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe, democratic elections are a novelty. Penalties also are an effective incentive. Italy, Austria and Belgium have the highest turnout among the western democracies. They also punish non-voters. We Americans have the right not to vote, without fear of reprisal.

The most disturbing aspect of the motor-voter bill is its potential to foster election fraud and thus debase the entire political process in this country. Several provisions of this bill have caused alarm among state and federal officials who are charged with ensuring the integrity of our electoral process.

Not only is this bill financially burdensome on states and probably useless in increasing turnout, it also may undermine the very integrity of the electoral process. For that reason alone, Congress should send “motor-voter” to the junkyard. ☐

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Some exceptional plates appreciate in value; some plates go down, and many remain at or near issue price. But the edition of "The Star-Spangled Banner" is strictly limited to a maximum of 150 firing days, and demand is expected to be strong. So, if you wish to obtain this plate at the \$29.90 issue price, the time to act is now. To order your plate — fully backed by our 365-day unconditional guarantee — send no money now, simply complete and mail the coupon at right.

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Agent Orange

Reports that the government and industry are involved in a massive cover-up of the hazards of dioxin continue to flourish.

This time it's Liane Clorfene Casten who works with the Fund for Investigative Journalism. In her upcoming book, *Lies and Contempt: Dioxin and Agent Orange*, she charges that federal officials have teamed with chemical industry representatives in a sophisticated public relations campaign designed to play down the harmful effects of dioxin.

Casten said the much publicized federal rethinking of the dioxin threat is being encouraged by the pulp and paper and lawn care industries. They both use or produce material that leaves dioxin in the environment.

"Their new 'findings' are based on no more than three spurious sources, one of which is a fraudulent Centers for Disease Control study," she said. "Their 'proof' flies in the face of years of peer-reviewed studies of both animals and humans that identify a number of dioxin's toxic effects."

She cautioned that some of the nation's big newspapers are publicizing the campaign because they may own paper mills and have a vested interest in seeing the threat minimized.

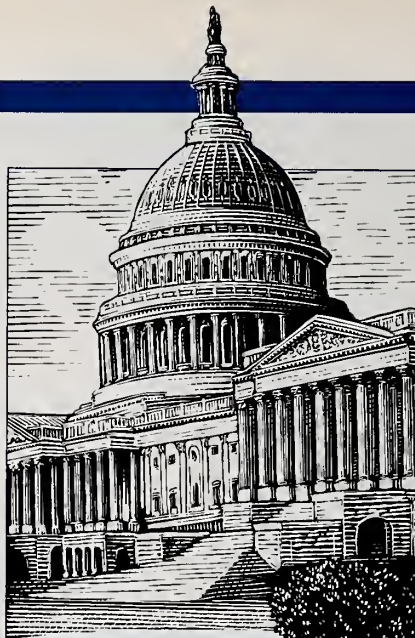
Casten, whose book will cite AMERICAN LEGION MAGAZINE reports on Agent Orange, said veterans of Agent Orange spraying in Vietnam constitute just one group of victims of dioxin, those most heavily affected. Yet, she said the federal government has resisted granting compensation to most of them. Now, future health benefits may be in jeopardy.

Vietnam Relations

Secretary of State James Baker's announcement that the United States is willing to diplomatically recognize communist Vietnam shocked The American Legion and other groups demanding a full accounting of American POW/MIAs.

Although Baker said diplomatic talks would be linked to a resolution of the POW/MIA issue, his announcement was viewed as capitulation to Hanoi.

Meanwhile, retired Army Col. Mildard Peck, former chief of the Special Office for POW/MIAs at the Defense Intelligence Agency, has charged that Vietnam has had a long-standing policy of using American prisoners of war and



WASHINGTON

WATCH

By Cliff Kincaid

even the remains of missing servicemen as "hard currency" to blackmail the United States into normalizing relations.

But congressional sources say the process of normalization, including the gradual lifting of the U.S. trade embargo on Vietnam, will succeed unless massive pressure is applied by veterans groups on Congress to intervene. Support for the new policy has come from banks and business interests arguing that normalized relations would economically benefit the United States. A series of meetings in the normalization process is under way between U.S. and Vietnamese diplomats in New York.

Military Gays

Expect pro-military groups to mobilize in defense of the Armed Forces' anti-homosexual policies. They have been slow to recognize increasing pro-gay pressure.

Openly homosexual Rep. Garry Studds of Massachusetts has surfaced as the recipient and publicist of reports from within the Pentagon dismissing security concerns about homosexuals. In one case, Studds obtained a report, "Homosexuality and Personnel Security," before it was officially released.

The report, described by Studds as concluding that "sexual orientation is

unrelated to moral character," was prepared by the military's own Defense Personnel Security Research and Education Center in Monterey, Calif.

Pro-defense groups likely will counter with scare stories about the potential dangers of having open and aggressive homosexuals in foxholes or close quarters on ships. They may also cite evidence that homosexuals are viewed as blackmail targets by hostile intelligence services.

NRA vs. NPR

The National Rifle Association (NRA) has set its sights on Nina Totenberg, the National Public Radio (NPR) correspondent who helped spark the congressional hearing into Anita Hill's sex charges against Judge Clarence Thomas.

The NRA is seeking reinstatement of the fairness doctrine for non-commercial broadcasters such as public radio and television. An NRA's analysis of NPR's coverage said Totenberg used public radio to mount a direct attack on the constitutional right to keep and bear arms, and has failed to adequately cover NRA's point of view.

Meanwhile, Capitol Hill observers doubt investigations will show who leaked Hill's confidential FBI statement to Totenberg.

Israeli Support

Christians who found apocalyptic implications in the rise of Saddam Hussein and the Persian Gulf War are mobilizing strongly behind Israel and its concern about the Middle East Peace Conference which began in late October.

The Religious Roundtable, a Christian evangelical group, has already organized one trip to Israel by editors and political figures who were told it would be suicide for the Jewish state to give up land for peace.

Some Christians, including students of Bible prophecy, believe the Middle East Peace Conference and a possible peace treaty are forecast in the books of Daniel and Revelation. They believe it will be a false peace and lead to an attack on the state of Israel.

If the peace talks remain on track and Israel comes under increasing pressure to give up land for peace, expect to see leading Christian broadcasters such as Pat Robertson mobilizing their viewers and listeners against a proposed settlement. □

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DECISIONS, DECISIONS, DECISIONS

By Robert McGarvey

W

E'LL make a thousand of them before today is out.

Most will happen so effortlessly we won't even know we've made them.

But a few will trouble us—for moments, maybe for days.

Out of the millions of decisions we make, why are some so difficult? And how can we make them easier?

"We make decisions out of habit. That's not where the problems arise," said Baruch Fischhoff, a professor of decision theory at Carnegie-Mellon University in Pittsburgh.

But we often do have problems with decisions at home and at work.

For instance: Should you buy a Buick or an Olds? Should you sell that stock or hold it? Hire job applicant A or B?

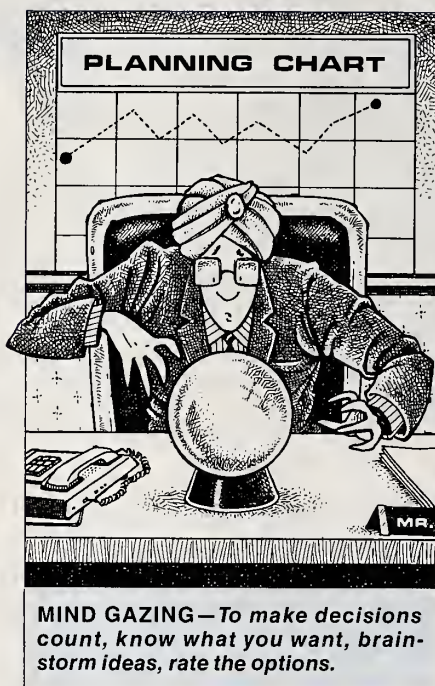
These are the questions that keep us up nights and for good reason, Fischhoff explained. "Whenever we cannot know all the facts, that means there's going to be uncertainty; that we're taking a gamble. This makes us uncomfortable, particularly when the stakes are high," he said.

There's good news in the face of those uncertainties. "We can all learn to make better decisions," said business consultant Dee Danna of San Jose, Calif. "Everybody has the innate talent, but many of us haven't taken the time to learn to apply it effectively."

How do you do that? The experts say their formula for increasing success is to know and follow a decision-making model. Yes, you can make seat-of-the-pants decisions and, frequently, a free-spirited approach will work.

But when the stakes are high or doubts large, using a formal model is a

Freelance writer Robert McGarvey is a frequent contributor to this magazine.



time-saver. It will improve your chances of making the right decision. Although there are dozens of models, Fischhoff said a standard one has five basic steps:

- Determine the objective or issue to be decided. Don't settle for fuzzy objectives. "Buying a new car" isn't good enough. A step in the right direction is: "Buying a new car with room for five under \$12,000." Make sure all important criteria are included.

- Brainstorm ways to achieve the objective. If three methods instantly come to mind, push for a fourth and a fifth. Just because you've always bought Ford cars is no reason to ignore GM cars. "The quality of your decision often is shaped by the variety of options you come up with," said Danna.

- Rate the likelihood of success for each option. This step calls for crystal-balling because there's no way of knowing exactly how each option will fare. Don't just make wild guesses. Ask experts, consult guidebooks and do

whatever digging it takes to learn the facts. As you study the problem, don't neglect ripple effects. For instance, if a sunny New Mexico vacation ideally fills your bill, but the spouse hates bright sunlight and gets nightmares thinking of cactus, send that solution back to the drawing board.

- Reach a decision. If the prior step seems like handicapping a horse race, this is where you place your wager. But just as with the Derby, there are no guarantees, so "hedge your bets wherever possible," advised Fischhoff. By all means, buy that "undervalued" stock but do not cash out your retirement fund. Retain enough liquidity to mount a fall-back strategy. Then, too, if your choice shows signs of faltering, "be prepared to back off and try a new tactic, pronto," said Danna. "You'll only aggravate losses by staying married to a solution which isn't working."

- Congratulate yourself on a job well done. Too often we underestimate just how much skill and effort goes into our decision-making, said Fischhoff. "Since you're dealing with probabilities, not absolutes, judge your performance by how well you used the information available to you at the time you made the decision, not by the outcome over time. We're generally much too harsh on ourselves in hindsight."

All this sounds great in theory, but how do you explain to the boss or spouse that you're stuck at step two when they're yelling for the verdict? "There's a long way to go between understanding decision theory and using it in an actual situation," Fischhoff said. "Implementation can be very, very difficult when confronting time pressures and the demands of others."

So what's the solution? "Practice, practice, practice," advised Danna. "Start with little things and build from there. That's the only way to build decision-making skills and, in the process, you'll repeatedly enjoy the satisfaction we all feel when we've made a decision we know is justified." □

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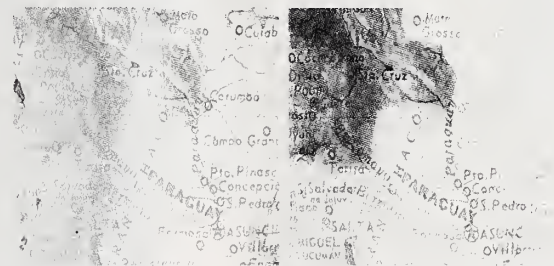
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BOOK 'EM

Young adults throughout America are learning respect for law and order in the Legion's law cadet program.

LIKE an invisible shield, a crime prevention program, such as the crime-fighting efforts of Post 202 of Columbia, Mo., protects communities and yields unseen benefits.

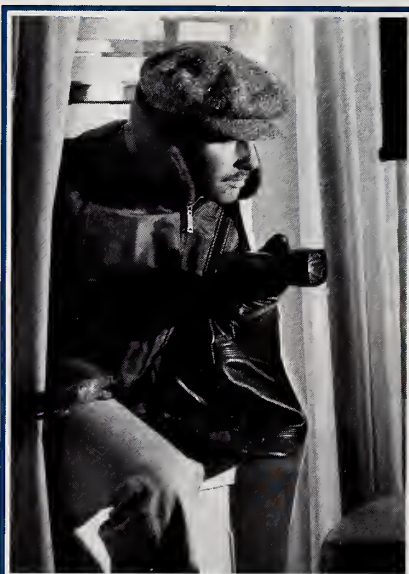
As part of their crime prevention program, Legionnaires of Post 202 have distributed hundreds of *The American Legion National Crime Prevention Program* pamphlets, which are published in conjunction with the National Crime Prevention Council's "Take a Bite Out of Crime" program.

"We care about our community, and we care about law and order," said Post 202 Adjutant John C. Cunningham.

In addition to distributing the pamphlets, Post 202 has sponsored speeches by Missouri State Police about crime prevention and driving safety, and sponsors students to the Department's Junior Law Cadet Program. As part of their crime prevention programs, 13 Departments, including the Department of Missouri, send selected students to the Junior Law Cadet Program each summer.

Structured similar to the Boys State program, the Junior Law Cadet Program emphasizes law enforcement and crime prevention. The Department of Missouri program has been conducted for the past 15 years at the State Police Headquarters in Jefferson City. Students learn about firearms safety, motor vehicle laws, first aid and drug enforcement, and they tour the Missouri State Penitentiary.

"By sponsoring students to the cadet program or by distributing brochures, Legionnaires can be involved in crime fighting in their communities," said W. Dudley Robbins of North Carolina, Chairman of the National Security Com-



CAVIERIQUE

FOREWARNED—Each year, the Legion distributes thousands of pamphlets detailing crime-prevention.

mission's Law and Order Committee. "Crime is everybody's problem, and as Legionnaires and Americans, we have the responsibility to make our communities safer."

THE scope of a Post's crime prevention program is only limited by imagination and the Post's desire to help its community. According to the most recent Consolidated Post Report, more than 1,100 Posts have crime prevention programs that range from donating money to local police funds to creating community crime prevention projects.

For example, Post 30 of Pomona, Calif., has contributed \$100 to the Pomona Police Reserve for its "A Time for Caring" program. And in West Lebanon, Vt., Post 26 Legionnaires pur-

chased and showed a film about guarding against kidnapping to about 200 children and parents.

Or Posts can distribute *The American Legion National Crime Prevention Program* pamphlets or *Your Friend the Policeman* coloring books. Each year, the National Security Commission distributes more than 7,500 pamphlets. Available free by writing The American Legion National Security/Foreign Relations Division, 1608 K St., N.W., Washington, DC 20006, the pamphlet contains such crime-fighting advice as:

- Mark all valuable items such as televisions, weapons and jewelry.
- Keep an inventory of property.
- Don't leave keys in car ignition.
- Lock car doors when parked.
- Don't pick up hitchhikers.
- Park in well-lighted areas and avoid remote, secluded streets.
- Use sturdy locks on residence doors.
- Install effective window locks.
- Never open the door to strangers.
- Do not display name on mailbox or plaque outside home.
- If a caller wants to use the telephone to summon help, take the message and make the call for him.
- Discontinue mail and newspaper deliveries when on vacation.
- Never give your name or telephone number to anyone over the telephone.
- Never tell callers you are alone.
- Do not walk on poorly lit streets.
- Close garage doors whether at home or away.
- When on vacation, don't carry an excessive amount of cash.
- Don't leave valuables in hotel room.

In addition to the brochure's advice, Robbins advises Posts to participate in local crime awareness programs.

"Awareness is the key to prevention," Robbins said. "We have to come to the aid of those who have fallen victim to crime, and we should encourage others to resist crime."

"The results of a crime prevention program can't really be seen. There's no way to know how many assaults were stopped or how many burglaries prevented, but the pride and community spirit of such communities as Columbia, Mo.; Pomona, Calif., and West Lebanon, Vt., can only increase if Legionnaires create or continue crime prevention programs," Robbins said.

For information about creating a crime prevention program in your community, write the National Security/Foreign Relations Division. □

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DRESS WARM THINK WARM

By Edward Edelson



WHEN Emeric Kurtz shipped over to England with the Army in World War II, he noticed that his fingers began to hurt during cold weather. Then his whole body

began to hurt. He had Raynaud's syndrome, the doctors told him—a mysterious condition that cuts blood flow to the hands and feet.

That was more than 45 years ago, and Kurtz, who lives in New York, still is suffering. "My whole body is in a spasm all the time," he said. "There's nothing I can do except try to keep myself warm. In wintertime it's really tough. As soon as the cold air hits my ear or my nose, my whole system goes into spasms."

Kurtz is one of an estimated 5 million Americans who suffer from Raynaud's syndrome, which was first described in 1862 by Maurice Raynaud, a French physician. The condition isn't life-threatening, but it can make patients enormously uncomfortable and, in extreme cases, leads to skin ulcers and gangrene of the hands or feet. And there isn't all that much doctors can do about it.

"Dress warmly, that's the main instruction," said Dr. Robert Freedman, a Raynaud's specialist at Wayne State University of Medicine in Detroit. "A number of drug treatments have been tried, but none of them is terrific. That's why we got started on biofeedback," he said.

Freedman's use of biofeedback is based on what doctors do know about Raynaud's syndrome: For some reason, blood vessels in the extremities go into

Raynaud's syndrome makes the body feel painfully cold. Sweaters can help, but only so much.



ILLUSTRATION BY CLINT HANSEN

a spasm, reducing blood flow severely enough to cause memorable pain. "We teach patients to increase blood flow by biofeedback," Freedman explained. "We attach an instrument called a thermistor to a fingertip. It reads skin temperature, which is roughly correlated to blood flow. The temperature is displayed on a screen and drives a tone that the patient hears through an earphone."

Patients literally think warm for 10 one-hour biofeedback sessions. In four test groups, Freedman claimed success rates ranging from 62 percent to over 90 percent, with relief lasting for up to three years.

Other doctors are not as enthusiastic about biofeedback. "Some people get Raynaud's syndrome because of emotional stress," said Dr. Sara Kramer of New York University Medical Center. "Biofeedback may help them. I don't think it will help patients with an underlying condition such as scleroderma, rheumatoid arthritis or lupus."

Those conditions are called collagen vascular diseases, because they affect collagen, the basic protein of the skin. They cause the walls of blood vessels to thicken, reducing blood flow.

Raynaud patients who have such conditions are said to have the secondary form of the disease; those who just have blood flow problems have primary Raynaud's. Secondary Raynaud's can also be triggered by some drugs—most notably nicotine; all Raynaud patients are advised against smoking for that reason and because smoking also causes blood vessels to narrow. They're also told to avoid alcohol because it narrows arteries; Kurtz hasn't had a drink for many years.

SECONDARY Raynaud's syndrome can also be linked to a person's job. Jobs that expose fingers to vibration or repeated impacts can cause the condition—and that means anyone from a typist who hits the keys all day to a construction worker who uses a pneumatic drill or riveting equipment.

Primary Raynaud's is largely a mystery. It's more common in women, by a four to one ratio, for reasons that experts can only guess at. One currently popular belief is that some sort of immunological flaw is responsible, and that women are more vulnerable to such subtle immune conditions.

The distinction between primary and secondary Raynaud's affects treatment. Freedman noted that the effects of biofeedback aren't as good with secondary Raynaud's as with the primary form.

Please turn page

Edward Edelson, a writer for a large metropolitan newspaper, specializes in science and medicine.

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TRAINING THE BRAIN—When blood vessels go into a spasm, blood flow is cut enough to cause pain. Biofeedback trains patients to increase their blood flow.

It's a treatment to try when the first measures fail—and the first measures generally are just to dress warm. "When the body is cold, the natural response is to clamp down on the circulation in the arms and legs," Kramer said. "We tell patients to wear sweaters and jackets even when it's warm out. If they go into an air-conditioned theater in the summer, they can get an attack. They've also got to avoid the freezer aisle in the supermarket and even wear gloves when they go into the refrigerator."

The drugs prescribed for the condition are those used to open blood vessels in other illnesses. They include calcium channel blockers, which are prescribed for high blood pressure; a drug called Trental, which is used to treat the pain caused by reduced blood flow to the feet; and nitroglycerine ointment, generally prescribed for the painful heart condition called angina. Raynaud's patients are told to put the ointment on their hands.

One treatment that's sometimes tried in severe cases is sympathectomy, cutting the nerves of the sympathetic nervous system that control the walls of blood vessels. Its effects generally last only a few months, Kramer said.

A Raynaud's attack can come in many forms. For some patients, there is just passing annoyance. Others run the full gamut of severe pain.

First the affected areas—most often the fingers, sometimes the toes or even the nose and ears—turn white as blood vessels go into a spasm that reduces blood flow.

There's a second phase when the affected area turns blue or purple, a sign that the arteries are filled with slug-

gishly flowing blood that has a low oxygen content.

Then there is a reddening and gradual rewarming as the area returns to normal, often to the accompaniment of considerable pain. Some patients get attacks infrequently. Others, like Emeric Kurtz, are in constant danger.

In the worst cases, repeated attacks can cause ulcerations or small, painful sores at the tips of the fingers or toes, or even self-amputation. Such problems are more common in secondary Raynaud's. Patients who suffer those complications have to be alert for signs of infection, which can pose a major danger for them.

Research to find the cause of Raynaud's disease isn't getting major federal support, acknowledged Dr. David Robinson of the National Health, Lung and Blood Institute. "We've got so many priorities and so little money to go around that it's usually the big killers we want to go after," he said.

But the institute has supported Freedman's work on biofeedback, and it's also funding a study that is looking at the importance of serotonin, a substance released by the blood cells that might cause platelets, which are responsible for blood clotting.

The study is looking into a theory that excess serotonin is somehow involved in the blood vessel spasms that cause Raynaud's attacks. And Freedman said he has detected abnormalities of some biochemical receptors in Raynaud patients.

Like other patients, Kurtz is hanging in there and hoping for a cure. "I've had a sympathectomy and bypass operations on both legs," he said. "But the disease is still there." □

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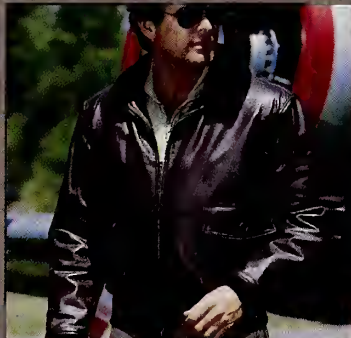
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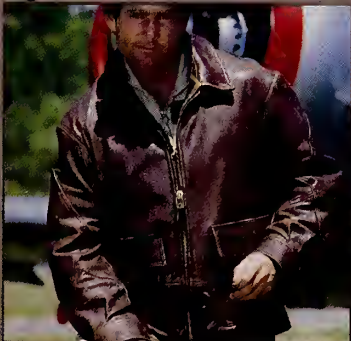
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'POLITICAL CORRECTNESS' VS. TRADITIONAL VALUES

By Brian Mitchell

OLIVER Wendell Holmes was among the greatest men ever to serve as a justice of the U.S. Supreme Court. He was also very much a modern man. Holmes was skeptical of everything, accepting nothing on the basis of tradition alone. He believed that man was evolving constantly and that such institutions as the U.S. Constitution must remain fluid and subject to frequent updates.

Yet, if Holmes were nominated today to serve on the nation's highest court, his nomination wouldn't stand a chance.

Holmes, it could be argued, was insensitive to women, minorities and the poor. He belonged to the all-male Cosmos Club in Washington, D.C. He upheld the legality of labor contracts that virtually enslaved poor blacks in the South. And, believing in the survival of the fittest, he was largely indifferent to the misery of the underclasses.

Oliver Wendell Holmes was not PC—that is, politically correct. His views about race and gender, not to mention sexual preference, did not conform to what is now socially acceptable among the nation's ruling elites. His confirmation today as a Supreme Court justice would be politically impossible.

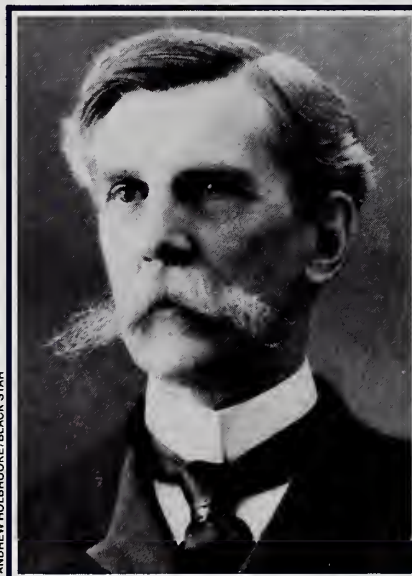
In recent months, conservative pundits have had such fun decrying the tyranny of "political correctness" that they have sometimes forgotten who invented the phrase and what it means.

"There is some sense in which the PC label is used as a synonym for liberalism," said Dinesh D'Souza, author of *Illiberal Education: The Politics of Race and Sex on Campus*, published recently by Free Press. "I try to use it to refer to

Brian Mitchell is a Washington-based author of Weak Link: The Feminization of the U.S. Military.

*Simple truths
are contested
and common sense
is a casualty
in this age of
the new ideologues.*

.....



ANDREW HOLBROOKE/BLACK STAR

OLIVER WENDELL HOLMES—This honored Supreme Court Justice's views on race and sex would not be "PC" today.

illiberalism, or to repressive tendencies that suffocate debate."

The phrase was invented by social radicals—the self-styled "progressives"—to identify others like themselves who share a rigid consensus on issues of race, gender and homosexuality: for affirmative action, for cultural diversity, for abortion rights, for gay rights and for "gender equity." Anyone who does not share this consensus is presumed to be either grossly misin-

formed, morally depraved or a racist, sexist or homophobic.

Racist, sexist homophobes are believed to exist, but progressives take pride in never having met one. They tend to expect that everyone with whom they associate thinks just as they do, said David Riesman, professor of sociology at Harvard University. Riesman recalls a recent dinner of 150 or so Harvard alumni at which the topic of discussion was the Supreme Court.

"The general tone of discussion by the [guest speakers] was to act as if no one in the room could conceivably have any objections to abortion, as if that was not an arguable issue. It was just taken for granted that everybody naturally thought the same way," said Riesman.

"They would think of themselves as highly tolerant people, but on this issue there was just the assumption that there was only one moral and just position."

D'Souza's book documents the growth of such intolerance on college campuses, where radicals have often attempted to fix the boundaries of permissible speech, usually in the name of "sensitivity" toward women, minorities and homosexuals. A recent study by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching found that 60 of the nation's colleges have enacted regulations restricting the freedom of speech among students.

Some of these regulations have gone so far as to virtually criminalize the expression of traditional values. D'Souza tells of graduate student Jerome Pinn who discovered, upon checking into his dormitory at the University of Michigan, that his new roommate, an avowed homosexual, had covered the walls with posters of nude men.

When Pinn asked the housing office for a new roommate, he was advised that he risked violating the school's anti-harassment policy, which at that time prohibited "any behavior, verbal

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TRUE BELIEVERS—If you're not with them, in this case pro-gay demonstrators, you are "either grossly misinformed or morally depraved," says author.

or physical that stigmatizes or victimizes an individual on the basis of race, ethnicity, religion, sex, sexual orientation, creed, national origin, ancestry, age, marital status, handicap or Vietnam-era veterans status."

Later, the University of Michigan's anti-harassment policy was struck down in court after an anonymous psychology graduate student successfully argued that the policy could be used to suppress legitimate scientific research or discussion of biological or psychological differences between men and women, which might be considered sexist.

The school's revised policy still prohibits "verbal slurs, invectives or epithets" made for the purpose of injuring someone and not made as part of an academic discussion.

Campus radicals also have begun applying standards of political correctness to course offerings and faculty hirings. After a bitter fight, the University of Texas at Austin recently rejected a plan to use freshman English courses to teach sensitivity to women, minorities and homosexuals. Elsewhere, however, literature courses have been converted into case studies showing how the works of "dead white males" like William Shakespeare and John Milton oppress women and minorities by encouraging sexist Western values.

"It began as a Marxist and feminist attack on the canon," said Bruce Edwards, professor of English literature at Bowling Green State University in Ohio. "Now everything is political and everything is sexist."

Edwards said schools will go out of their way to recruit feminists or minorities for diversity's sake, but conservative Christians like himself are generally unwelcome. "I don't believe my department would hire me today, now that they know what they'd be getting," he said.

Others attest to the same bias in hiring. A female graduate student at Rutgers University said she was told by an instructor that a woman who is not a feminist would never be hired by the Rutgers English department. Of course, women's studies departments everywhere are considered to be the special preserve of radical feminists. Non-feminists need not apply.

"We are not dealing with a few cases

of excess," said D'Souza. "There are many cases, and the excess, so to speak, is not accidental but is generated according to clearly articulated principles."

Those principles form a revolutionary ideology of oppression that makes victims of everyone but healthy, heterosexual, white males of European descent, who are cast as the oppressors. Western culture—its art, language, legal systems, religion and even science—is viewed as little more than a means of oppression. Christianity is seen as especially backward because of its patriarchal nature, restrictive sexual morality and emphasis on evangelism.

"The white, male, heterosexual, able-bodied, Christian middle-class norm has served as a definition for men and all of humanity, and that's been the problem. We need to break down the monolithic model of what it is to be a real man," Harry Brod, director of the women and gender studies program at Kenyon College in Ohio, told the *Washington Post* in 1989.

Other adherents of political correctness believe the tyranny of white males has already been overthrown by the civil rights movement, the feminist movement and the sexual revolution. The issues of race, gender and sexuality are assumed to have been settled in favor of multi-culturalism, feminism and sexual diversity, and all that remains is to eliminate the last traces of counter-revolutionary Neanderthalism among the backward and the bigoted.

Political correctness is by no means limited to the academic world. It thrives in newsrooms across the country, where the excuse used to suppress embarrassingly backward opinions is "collegiality." Because many journalists are politically liberal, the conservative journalist must be very careful with his opinions. If a colleague decides to take offense, the conservative may be faulted for spoiling the newsroom's collegial atmosphere.

The press itself is largely responsible for enforcing political correctness among the nation's political figures, for whom stating the obvious is often politically dangerous.

Former New Hampshire Sen. Gordon Humphrey learned this lesson in 1988, when he made the mistake of saying publicly that the duties of a member of Congress are too time-consuming for the mother of two pre-school children. He was referring to a Republican candidate for Congress from his state. The

Please turn to page 68

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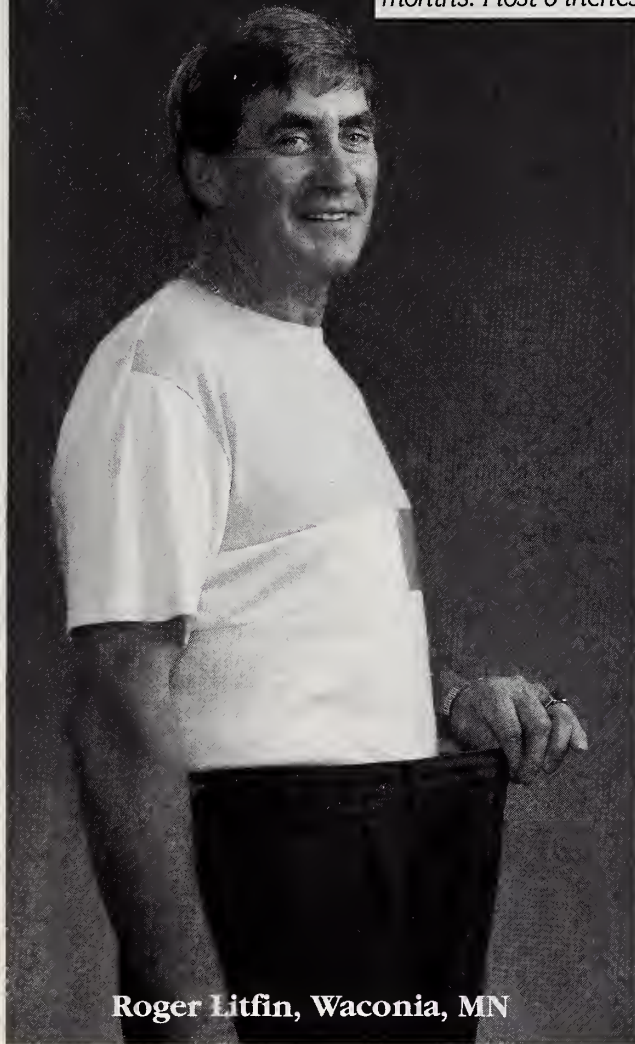
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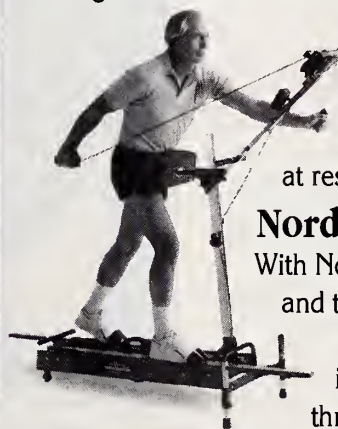
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FALL MEETING

POW/MIAs

AND THE FUTURE OF VA

National Commander DiFrancesco calls for the full story on POW/MIAs. Also: The Legion will represent selected claims before appeals court; the Army gives \$500,000 for Family Support Network; and a guest speaker looks to the future of VA.

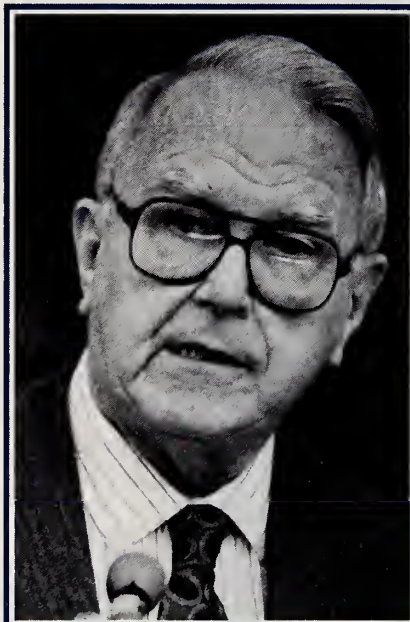
THE echo of the opening gavel at the Fall Meeting of the National Executive Committee (NEC) had barely died away before National Commander Dominic DiFrancesco stood before the group and demanded the government declassify documents of alleged POW/MIA sightings.

"We do not know if any Americans are still held captive, but we are trying to find out," he said. "We do know that our government is not telling us the full story. The government must give us and the American public the answers we deserve."

Recent photos and sightings coupled with growing dissatisfaction with the methods used by the federal government in its investigations have brought the issue to the front burner. DiFrancesco said it was time for the government to level with the American people. The Legion has stood firm on its insistence that there be no diplomatic or economic relations with the government or country of Vietnam until the POW/MIA issue is resolved.

National Commander DiFrancesco also:

- announced plans for the Legion to represent veterans claims in selected cases before the Court of Veterans Appeals (COVA);



DR. NEAL L. GAULT
He predicted veterans will not recognize VA in 2010.

- denounced VA's planned treatment of Medicare-eligible civilians at VA medical facilities;

- praised the U.S. Army Medical Research and Development Command for its \$500,000 grant to The American Legion Family Support Network; and

- expressed concern over the

growing influence of special interest and lobby groups in government and business.

Veterans' issues ranked high on the list of 39 resolutions presented and passed by the NEC.

For selected veterans entering the court system against VA in the claims process, The American Legion will now offer representation before COVA. The court rules on the legality of VA decisions. The Legion is expected to contract legal services through the National Veterans Legal Services Project.

It is expected the Legion's participation will be limited to the class-action type of claims which stand to benefit the largest number of veterans.

The Legion now can represent veterans at local and regional levels of a claim; before the Board of Veterans Appeals in Washington, D.C.; and before the COVA. These services are free and the veteran need not be a Legion member to be represented by The American Legion.

Keynote speaker at the Fall Meeting, Dr. Neal L. Gault, a member of the VA Commission on Future Structure of Veterans Health Care, painted a grim picture for the future of VA health care. His group recently completed a study of what VA health care would look like in 2010.

Please turn page

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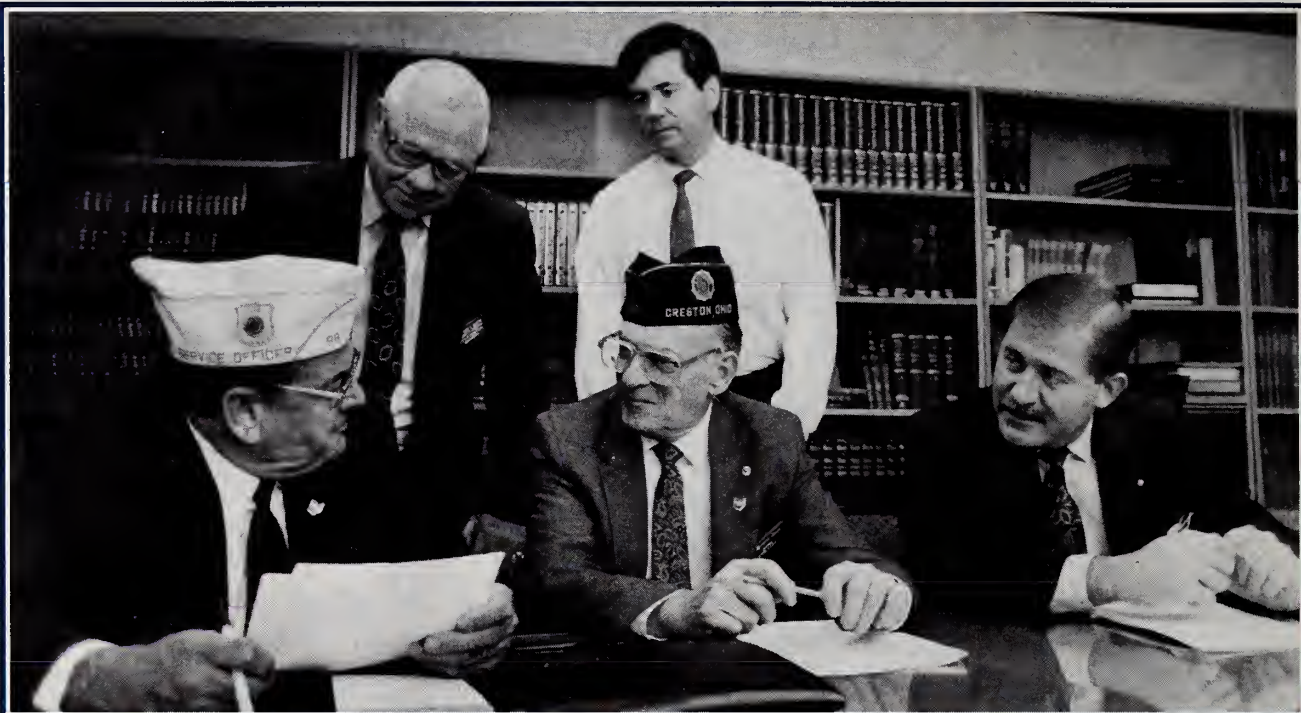
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PHOTOS BY JOHN E. SIMON

RESOLVED—Reviewing resolutions are (back row) VA&R Deputy Dir. Frank Buxton and Dir. John Hanson; (front row) Ga. DSO A. V. "Bubba" Akin Jr., VA&R Commission Chairman Chester Stellar and Washington Office Executive Dir. John Sommer.

Gault's current description of VA includes deteriorating facilities, severe understaffing and gross underfunding. Nor does he foresee much relief in the future. Gault believes the VA must be allowed to collect and retain third party reimbursements, including Medicare, if it is to survive.

Asked if recent cutbacks in VA care spell the end to treatment of non-service connected (NSC) disabled veterans, Gault said that by 2010 he expects NSC veterans to be treated on a Medicare basis. He added we would not recognize the VA health-care system in 20 years.

Gault also can visualize a VA insurance program that would allow veterans to make premium payments and be treated by VA as their medical facility of choice.

He said that national health care, which he believes is imminent, could help VA Medical Centers (VAMCs) because of VA's research potential and association with medical schools.

Gault's overall assessment of the VA medical system was bleak. "The current system is out of date. Facilities are deteriorating and do not fit current or future needs," Gault said. "VA Medical Centers desperately need an infusion of money."

Gault's comments came in the wake of the VA's proposal to treat civilian Medicare-eligible patients in rural areas, in cooperation with the Department of Health and Human Services.

An angry National Commander DiFrancesco pointed out veterans were being turned away untreated from VAMCs and called the proposal the height of hypocrisy.

"One civilian in a VA hospital is one too many as long as there is one veteran on the street," he said. He assured the NEC that the Legion would fight this with every means at its disposal, including litigation, if necessary.

THE U.S. Army Medical Research and Development Command's \$500,000 grant to the Legion will help continue the Family Support Network program. To date, more than 31,000 calls for help have been received from military families. The Legion has responded with direct cash assistance and many volunteer hours of help, ranging from babysitting and mowing lawns to finding medical care or employment for distressed military families affected by Desert Storm.

"As anticipated cuts in the military force begin to take place, the Family Support Network will continue to be a

vital lifeline linking military families to more than 15,000 American Legion Posts nationwide," Commander DiFrancesco said.

Military cutbacks also led the NEC to pass Res. 3, calling for the reinstatement of the federal draft as a backup to the all-volunteer military. The resolution said current military forces are believed sufficient for limited engagements or a show of force. But a long-term conflict could be disastrous because of the minimum six-month delay to start up conscription and train new inductees.

As our national defense forces are reduced, American economic stability is being eroded by foreign lobbyists and their influence on U.S. government and businesses, according to a recent American Legion study.

PNC E. Roy Stone called for a study on lobby groups last May. The study was completed by members of the Foreign Relations Commission and the result was Res. 4, urging passage of the Omnibus Regulation of Lobbying Act.

The legislation would require disclosure of all foreign and domestic lobbyists, set reasonable post-employment restrictions for former members of the

Please turn to page 70

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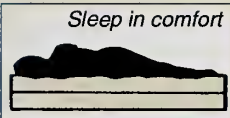


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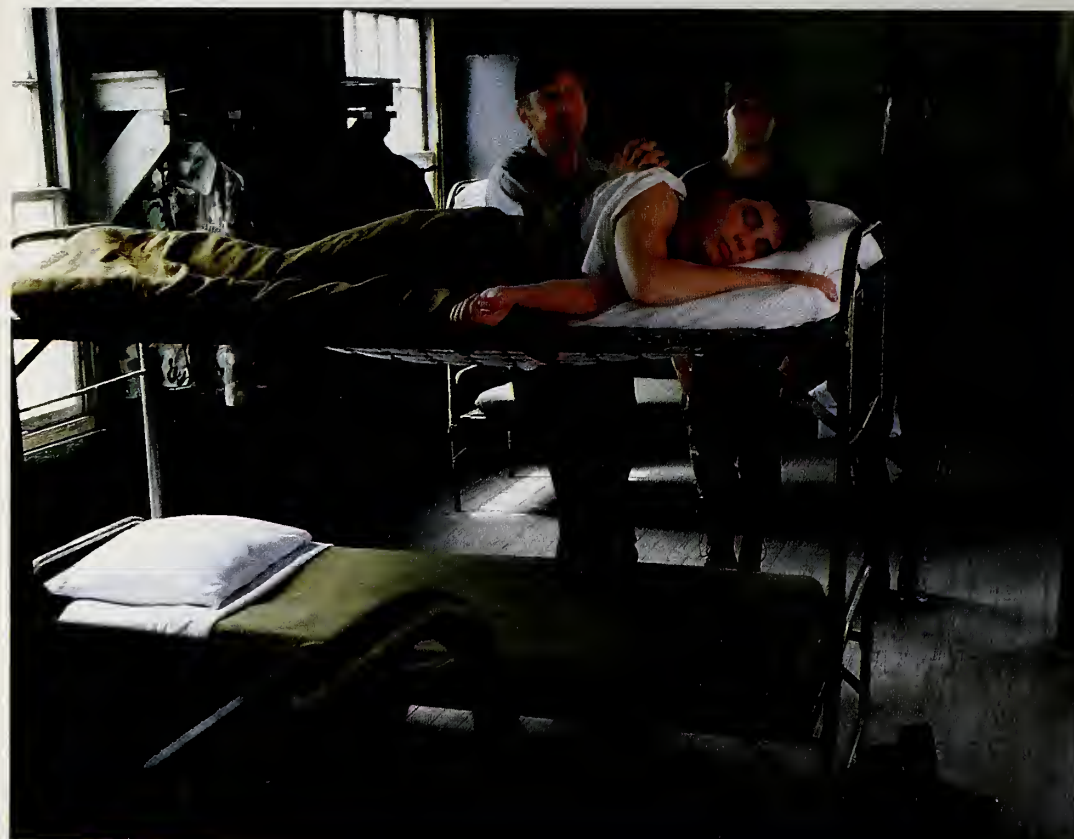
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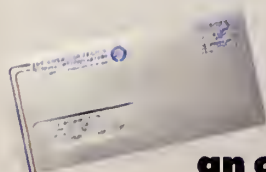
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Some would have us believe that there are no obligations to citizenship in a free Nation. That personal freedom is everything. But as you think about renewing your membership this year, consider this:

As veterans, we once gave up all our personal freedoms to defend the rights of others. We were separated from our families for years. We experienced the terror and pain of watching friends fall in combat.

We learned the hard way that freedom is not free. But, who will teach our children that fact if we do not?



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INTRODUCING A NEW SERIES

Inside The Government Machine



IN DRAWING up the Constitution in Philadelphia that hot summer of 1787, our founding fathers showed remarkable insight in setting forth their famous blueprint for a federal/state system and a clear separation of powers within the national government. They recognized as few others before their time a lesson that the Soviets are only now fully realizing—that the structure of government goes far in determining results.

Now, 205 years later, the United States is engaged in another great election, much like was envisioned by the framers of the Constitution. Up for the voters' choice is the President and Vice President, all of the House of Represent-

atives, one-third of the Senate and numerous state and local offices.

Yet, the election campaign itself this year will be something far beyond anything that those attending that long-ago Constitutional Convention could possibly have foreseen. The big difference: the mass communications media and use of every trick in a candidate's public relations' attention-getting bag.

The public will be inundated with politicking news and non-news. Unfortunately, little will be said about the basics that make our whole democratic system work.

In this special series, *THE AMERICAN LEGION MAGAZINE* will go "Inside the Government Machine." We plan a year-long series of interviews with top national authorities on:

- The Presidency: The World's Toughest Job.

- Congress: Still The People's Forum?

- The Regulatory Agencies: Are We Tying Ourselves In Knots?

- The Gathering State/Local Government Dilemma.

Then, because government action takes place in a pressure chamber of conflicting interests, we also will be interviewing three more authorities on the "other" government:

- Washington Lobbying: Steamroller or the Key to Representative Government?

- Think Tanks: The Real Government Policymakers?

- The Washington Press: How Much Clout Does It Really Have?

We hope this series will give you a clearer vision of how our government works, as well as the processes behind this year's campaigning. —*The Editors*

THE WORLD'S TOUGHEST JOB

We ask the President to lead the nation as well as manage the government. That is almost too much for one person, says White House veteran Dwight Ink.



ON CALL—President Bush talks with USSR President Gorbachev during the Gulf War. He has to talk to Congress, too.



DWIGHT INK has been a professional public servant in the best sense of that term. He's worked under seven Presidents. He's seen the government inside and out, from the White House to federal departments and agencies. He knows the politics and the bureaucracies.

Ink worries that presidential election campaigns focus on all aspects of the candidates but the most important: How each would run the government.

He believes a President's success directly depends on his ability to handle the giant workload. Our President must be Chief Executive, Commander-in-Chief, Chief Diplomat, Political Party Chief, Chief Sales Manager and National Leader.

During his years in Washington, Ink served in federal policy positions ranging from urban affairs, environment and energy, education and anti-poverty to foreign aid, arms reduction and disaster reconstruction. He now is president of the Institute of Public Administration in New York.

American Legion Magazine: This election year reminds us that there are people who still want to become President of the United States even though it's considered an almost impossible job. What is it that makes it so tough?

Dwight Ink: First, let me say it's tougher than almost any of us realize. In part, this is because in our system of government so much focuses on the President. He has many roles to play.

In his role of Chief Executive, he heads a civilian organization of 2.2 million people—far bigger than any private corporation—plus another 2 million in the Armed Services. Then, he has the responsibility of conducting foreign policy, is leader of his political party, and also has to take the initiative in advancing legislation.



TIMOTHY MURPHY

In addition are many ceremonial duties, and more people and organizations across this country than anyone can count all want to see the President.

Q. Is his role as Commander in Chief especially burdensome?

A. Yes, but this varies more than many of his roles, depending on circumstances. During Desert Shield and Desert Storm, it was a very important and demanding role and one which I think most people feel was carried out superbly. Much of the time, though, the President's role in national defense has to do more with appropriations battles and deciding how much we want to invest in conventional weapons versus nuclear weapons, and that sort of thing.

Q. What about the tension the President feels being on call every second of every day, in event of nuclear attack?

A. Many things provide round-the-clock pressure on the President. If a major event or crisis occurs in the world, such as we have been experiencing with the Soviet Union, the President may be awakened and expected to react very quickly. The press wants to know on the spot what he's going to do. The world wants to know what kind of statement he's going to issue because that is a bellwether for how the whole Free World reacts. Every word is analyzed in great detail.

Q. The President is also the nation's Chief Diplomat; but isn't Congress gradually whittling away at his dominant role in foreign affairs?

Please turn to page 82

HIGHLIGHTS

Dwight Ink On...

The President as Chief Manager: "We expect a President to suddenly become an expert Chief Executive. It's amazing the system works at all."

Congress: "It should not reduce the power of the President to act when prompt action is needed."

The President's staff: "One of the greatest variables in our government is the quality of the White House staff."

Politics: "His role with his party has to be subordinated to his role as President of the entire country."

Media criticism: "It's our best safeguard against an imperial presidency."

Life Is Killing Bethna Hareld

The problem of MCS—multiple chemical sensitivities—has polarized science, medicine and industry.

By David Halbrook

IN THE three years since she was exposed to pesticide fumes and mold-laced dust at her library basement workspace, Bethna Hareld has had to drag herself out of bed each day. Often she wakes up sprawled on the floor, the wet nose of her golden retriever, Pumpkin, nudging her.

At her worst, the former Colorado science researcher blacks out 20 to 30 times a day. Only potent painkillers help her cope with the "white-hot, screaming pain" throughout her body. Asthma attacks, ringing headaches and amnesia rarely subside. Eyes swollen, Hareld speaks breathlessly, as if each

David Halbrook is a Colorado-based newspaper writer who frequently reports on medical subjects.

gasp of air were a new battle for life.

"I can't begin to describe how devastating this has been," she said. "I haven't been a mother to my son for three years. I can't work and my medical benefits are gone. I've sold household goods to pay bills. My doctor said my immune and adrenal systems are dysfunctioning, but I can't afford treatment. I honestly don't know how much longer I'll last."

This is real life for hundreds of thousands like Hareld. Their unchecked misery has been diagnosed as multiple chemical sensitivities (MCS), or environmental illness. Their grief and desperate pleas for help are shared in support groups, in the media and at social service windows everywhere.

The National Academy of Sciences estimates that 15 percent of the population suffers from chemical sensitivities. The sickest are a beaten lot; they have lost their jobs and even their families to the crippling disease.

Often, doctors and allergists dismiss their claims out of hand, blaming depression or other psychosomatic roots for their perplexing symptoms. Resources drained, emotions frazzled, victims frequently find themselves on psychiatrists' couches, questioning their own sanity. The nightmare progresses as disability review boards and insurance carriers habitually reject their medical claims based on sketchy diagnoses.

Angered and alienated at their treatment by the medical establishment, victims are turning to a new breed of physicians: clinical ecologists, or environmental medicine specialists. Trained to recognize environmentally linked illness, clinical ecologists describe their patients as figurative "canaries in a coal mine" living in a world under chemical siege.

"This disease is real, and makes the AIDS epidemic look like nothing," said Dr. William Rae, founder of the Environmental Health Center in Dallas, one of the few clinics worldwide equipped with the non-polluting environments MCS patients require.

ENIGMATIC and explosively controversial, the MCS debate has polarized the fields of science, medicine and industry, challenging hallowed maxims in each and sparking a re-evaluation of the causal links between chemical exposures and illness.

"Scientists and doctors have learned that a specific agent develops a specific type of response," said Robert Burrell, immunology professor at the West Virginia University Medical School. "With MCS, however, we have a great variety of agents that produce a variety of symptoms. It's frustrating because science isn't yet able to measure those things," Burrell said.

Susan Molloy, a wheelchair-bound



DEVASTATED—“I haven’t been a mother to my son,” (Brian Hunter, right) says Bethna Hareld.

MCS sufferer in San Francisco said, “We strike most doctors from an angle they aren’t expecting. Our symptoms fit no handy category. But remember, it took medical science a long time to unravel tuberculosis and cholera, too.”

Ken Vinnis was a fireman and self-professed fitness nut in Florida until fumes from a plastics fire ruined his health in 1988. To this day he is terrified that almost imperceptible wisps of diesel exhaust, cologne and even fabric softener will trigger vomiting attacks and heart palpitations.

“With all the pain and suffering I’ve been through, I dare any doctor to face me and tell me it’s all in my head,” he said.

MCS has been variously dubbed total allergy syndrome, neurotoxic disease, chronic fatigue, chemical bronchitis, industrial disease and, perhaps fittingly, 20th-century illness.

Its warning signs overlap and mimic other maladies, often arrayed in odd blends of sinusitis, irregular heart-beat, nausea, dizziness, asthma, headaches, skin

rash, arthritis, exhaustion and depression. Shockingly, victims say they’ve been mistakenly diagnosed with colitis, rheumatoid arthritis, muscular sclerosis, lupus and Parkinson’s disease.

Because many doctors lack training to diagnose and treat MCS patients, scientists typically are loathe to acknowledge MCS even exists. They cite damning gaps in evidence for a triggering mechanism and complain that crucial double-blind, unbiased tests of random populations are lacking.

“If I dream there are little green men on the moon, it almost carries as much weight as what we hear from clinical ecologists and their patients,” said William Waddell, pharmacology chairman of the University of Louisville Medical School. “A chemical hysteria is under way. Give us some evidence.”

Please turn to page 72

MCS AND AGENT ORANGE

MCS victims today are experiencing grief and rejection much like Vietnam veterans who have struggled for years to gain VA acceptance of their suffering from Agent Orange exposure.

Take, for example, Vietnam veteran Jim Mullen. Last February, he learned his Agent Orange claim with VA had finally been approved. He was so elated he broke into tears. Two weeks later he died.

Having struggled with her husband through two decades of endless brain, lung and kidney cancer surgeries, Mullen’s wife, Vicki, is certain Jim’s Agent Orange exposure in

Vietnam caused his death. More embittering, however, was Mullen’s enduring battle with VA for recognition.

“It’s like someone rapes you and years later says, ‘Here, I’ll pay for the abortion,’” she said. “It’s extremely frustrating to see somebody’s life turned upside down, and the government turns its back on you. Jim was so happy to get service-connected disability. But my feeling is, they did it to him, they owed him.”

A big breakthrough for Agent Orange veterans came in 1990 when VA Secretary Edward Derwinski decided to accept the fact that soft

Please turn to page 72

• We put down
• intelligence
• in our schools,
• in the home and
• on television.
• America must
• celebrate brains
• or we will be
• left behind.

By Gerald L. Bepko

EVERYONE should know about the disappointing achievement levels in American education. Illiteracy, the high dropout rate and the increasing gap between work force skills and the needs of employers have signaled an alarming situation.

When we assess our educational deficits, we discover a special weakness in the fields of math, science and engineering. This problem implicates not just dropouts or poor performers, but the better students as well.

A recent Educational Testing Service (ETS) study compared achievement among 13-year-olds from different countries. American students were at or near the bottom in almost every math and science category. And these disappointing results are repeated at other levels in our educational system.

This problem should be no surprise, for there are powerful forces militating against achievement in math and science.

To begin, we have overlooked important segments of the public. Some progress has been made in encouraging women and minorities to pursue science based careers, but many are still steered away by friends, families and even teachers and counselors, who tell

Gerald L. Bepko is vice president of Indiana University and chancellor of Indiana University-Purdue University in Indianapolis. This article is adapted from a speech he gave to the Downtown Kiwanis Club of Indianapolis.



SCIENCE

PROBERS—Elaine Lipscomb and Ray Russo study insect behavior in their Indiana lab. But women and minorities still are steered away from science education.

HEROES FOR

them that the challenge doesn't make good sense for them. This is an especially important problem since women and minorities will make up a larger and larger percentage of our student bodies and work force.

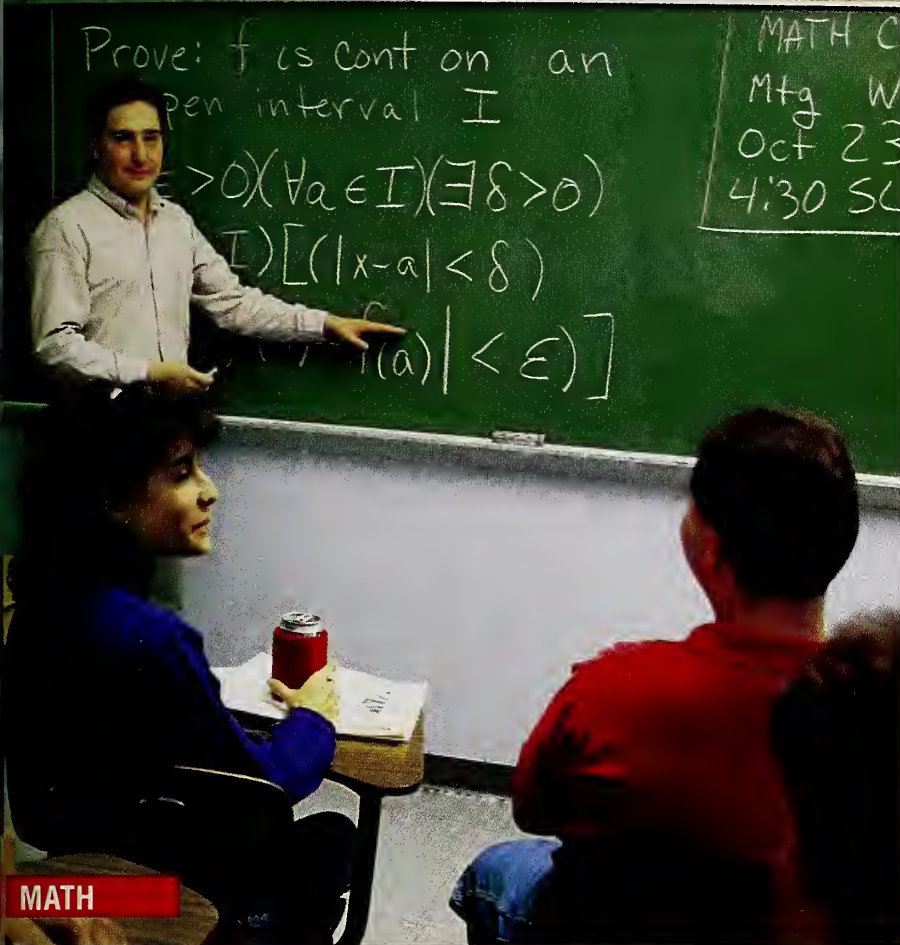
A related obstacle is that so many people, including teachers, assume that some students are gifted in math and science but that most are not. If gifted, math and science will be easy. If not gifted, you shouldn't even try.

This attitude is reflected in the results of a comparative study of parents of school-age children. In the United States, parents listed innate ability as the most important factor in achievement in math and science. In Japan, where achievement levels are higher, parents cited hard work as the

most important ingredient.

Another related problem is our tendency to find comfort and satisfaction with only marginal achievement. In the international tests mentioned earlier, Koreans, who scored the highest, thought they were not doing well in math. Americans, on the other hand, who were near the bottom, felt differently; 68 percent of the American students expressed agreement with the statement, "I am good in mathematics."

Also, there are stereotypes that have damaged our ability to encourage achievement. In a special section on science education published Jan. 7, 1990, *The New York Times* quoted Rebecca Lubetkin of Rutgers University to the effect that children think science is boring and scientists are just



TEACHERS—In Jeff Watt's Indianapolis math course, students learn the subject and how to teach it. Too many school teachers don't know their subjects, says author.

EDUCATION

this side of crazy.

"If you ask children to draw a picture of a scientist, they will draw what we think of as a mad scientist," Lubetkin said. "It will be a man, usually with white hair standing on end, and bulging eyes."

We also discourage students by the way we teach math and science. K.C. Cole, in that same special section of *The New York Times*, wrote, "What's happening from grade school to grad school is the suffocation of curiosity under an avalanche of raw fact." Cole noted that Mary Budd Rowe of the University of Florida estimates that more new terms are introduced in a typical high-school biology text than in the first two years of a foreign language.

Human beings are inherently curi-

ous. Curiosity can be stifled by science instruction that does not bring out the mystery, excitement and magic of scientific experiments.

These problems may be aggravated by the fact that so many teachers in public schools have not been trained in the subjects that they teach.

There are other factors that influence students to make the wrong choices. In high school, they want free time to work, socialize or play sports. Too many students don't take the courses needed to build a foundation for further study in math and science.

Those who persevere in high school and enter college intent on pursuing science careers often drop out of science programs because they wish to join a fraternity, go to Florida on spring

break, or get a part-time job. As many as 40 percent of college students drop out of their first college science course and 60 percent drop out by graduation.

Those who do complete a baccalaureate degree are often lured away by industry and don't attend graduate programs in sufficient numbers.

The result is an insufficient number of graduate degrees awarded to American students.

What is the impact? It may be a condition which some describe as a scientific illiteracy (innumeracy in math) and an insufficient pool of scientists to create cutting-edge innovations.

Our educational system, from pre-kindergarten to post-doctoral, will have to provide some of the answers. The solution to this problem will likely require some additional money. For example, there is a powerful, negative message to high-school students in the fact that their chemistry teacher is studying to earn an MBA so she can leave teaching and earn more money.

But there is something all of us can do. We can make educational achievement more of a public priority.

To this end, we must make better choices of the people who attract public attention. Those who attract public attention today are not necessarily chosen for their intellectual achievements, particularly in math and science. They should be.

Stanley Pons, the Utah chemistry professor, visited our campus shortly after his first announcement on cold fusion. Cold fusion could be an inexhaustible source of cheap and clean energy. There was not much public interest in him, despite the earthshaking potential of his reported discovery. It was only after someone challenged his claims as false that he became newsworthy.

We all pay too much attention to "celebrities" whose words and actions are magnified beyond their merits.

Let's try to change this pattern by increasing the attention paid in our daily lives to intellectual growth. Let's create a few public figures, a few more heroes who reinforce the value of hard work and intellectual achievement.

The 1990s should be a decade to celebrate learning as a human activity and to reshape community attitudes toward intellectual achievement. If we're successful in shifting our priorities, then our students will likely demand a better education, particularly in math and science, and we should make whatever sacrifices are needed to provide it. □



A MEASURE OF SUCCESS

South Carolina's Voc-Rehab Department joins business and government in a unique program that works.

"Success is to be measured not so much by the position that one has reached in life as by the obstacles which he has overcome while trying to succeed."

—Booker T. Washington



MORE than once, Legionnaire Glenn Bullock has glanced at the monument bearing that inscription as he entered the West Columbia campus of the South Carolina Vocational Rehabilitation Department.

For Bullock and hundreds of other veterans, the Booker T. Washington quote is sure to remind them of the serious health problems they have overcome with the help of the state's voc-rehab training program.

The monument on which those words are etched in stone stands at the heart of the newly completed West Col-

umbia campus of the South Carolina Vocational Rehabilitation Department. The monument serves as a focal point for the campus and symbolizes the commitment department staff have made providing clients with innovative vocational training to enable those with disabilities to fully participate in society.

Bullock, 35, a Columbia, S.C. police officer, faced a career-threatening back injury first sustained during service with the Army's 101st Airborne. Bullock, a member of Post 6, Columbia, entered the vocational rehabilitation's Pain Management Program in March 1990 because he could barely move without feeling like his back was being skewered.

Working with staff members, Bullock improved his strength and flexibility so he could return to a desk job with the police department the following month. Within two weeks he was back

in a patrol car. He continues with conditioning exercises to keep in shape so he can stay on the job.

"If people are motivated they can do whatever they want. I feel fortunate I had the opportunity to take advantage of the program," said Bullock. "The staff here is very professional. They push you, but not beyond your limit."

Walter J. "Jakki" Gallman is another veteran whose career path was changed for the better through his contact with South Carolina's Voc-Rehab training. Gallman, 38, is a 10-year U.S. Army veteran who also underwent treatment at the Center for Comprehensive Programs. Gallman's problem was an asthmatic condition linked to a previous job.

Staffers at the department's Evaluation Center worked with Gallman, determined he possessed an aptitude for computers and arranged his placement in computer training offered at the West Columbia campus.

It was no powderpuff course. Gallman and the others put in 40-hour weeks in the classroom, hitting the books in the mornings with the course





BRIGHT PROSPECTS—The West Columbia campus (left) features the Muscular Development Center (far left) where clients undergo physical therapy (below).



federal agencies, the military, VA, public schools, the state Department of Social Services, Workmen's Compensation cases and private industry. Since 65 percent of clients the department serves have developmental or psychiatric disabilities, the campus features modern facilities for physically challenged clients in its Muscular Development and Rehabilitation Engineering

PHOTOS BY M. L. MILLER



PNC E. ROY STONE JR.
Chairman for more than 20 years

The department works diligently to create an environment in which every client can cut it. From modest beginnings with centers in storefronts and converted garages throughout the state, the South Carolina program has grown into one of the premier voc-rehab systems in the country—and one of the most successful. In addition to the sprawling West Columbia campus, the department operates 19 state offices, all of which feature training workshops for specialized programs.

"Our interest has been to involve business and industry in what we do here," said Department Commissioner Joe S. Dusenbury. The local business advisory boards are vital links in the public-private partnership.

More than 500 business and industrial firms contract directly with the department to employ clients in a variety of office and manufacturing jobs. The department also operates cooperative training programs with the state public school system, the state's Department of Corrections, and Department of Mental Health.

Clients are drawn from state and

ing centers. Voc-Rehab is a cyclical operation: the staff evaluates clients' needs and aptitudes then follows through with training, referral and job placement.

The Vocational Rehabilitation Department benefits from business and industry involvement by placing selected, qualified clients in jobs. Industry benefits because it hires motivated people who meet the job requirements, and can draw on the department's facilities and staff to retrain or salvage problem employees. "This is a very effective cross-fertilization between business and industry and the type of programs we run," Dusenbury said.

The commissioner credits support by the State Agency of Vocational Rehabilitation for providing the department's success. "We have advisory committees in all areas of the state, but all policies are originated by the agency's seven-member board," Dusenbury said.

The board's stability has provided the continuity to the program. One

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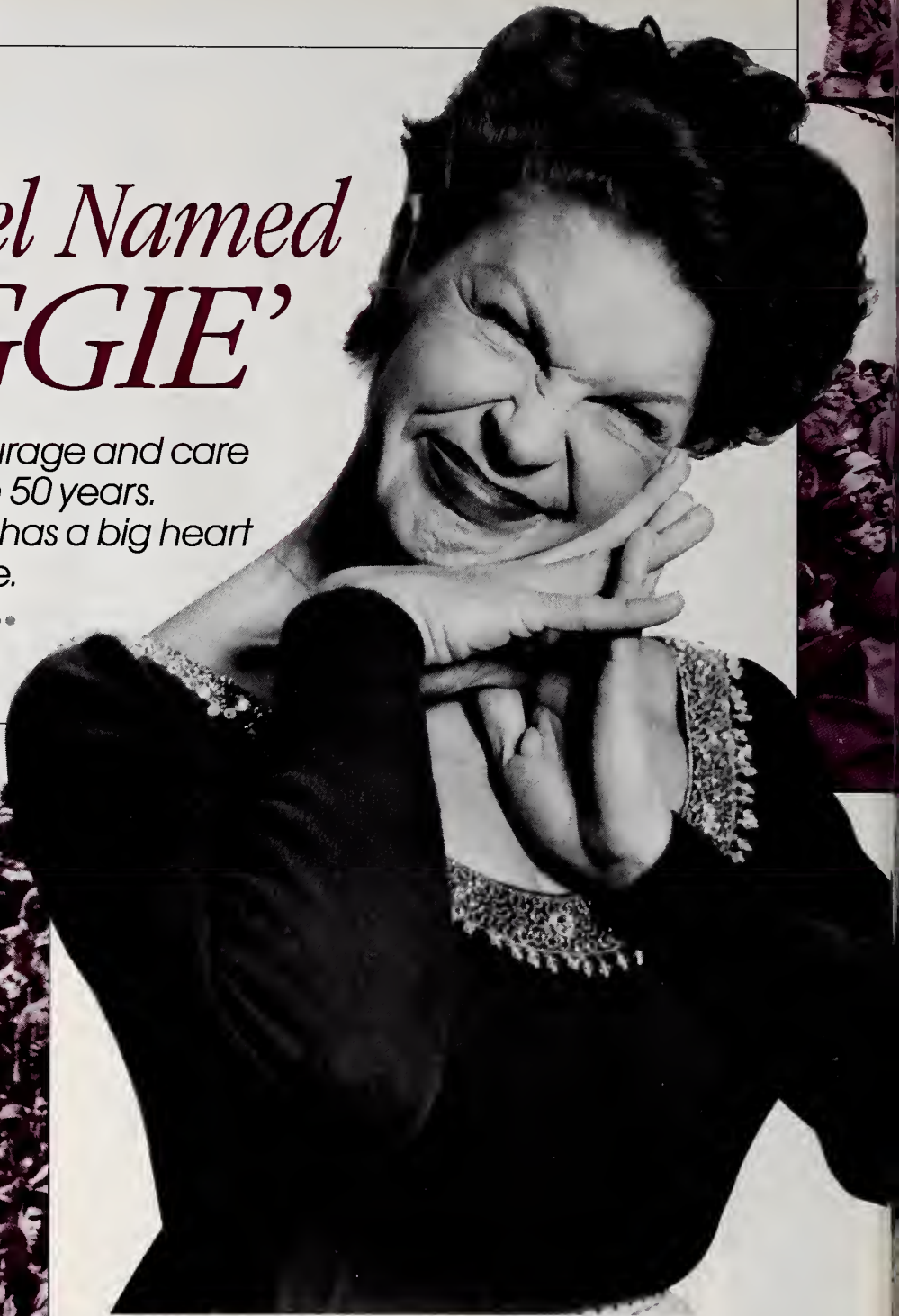
instructor and spending afternoons at the keyboard.

"It was pretty intensive, but for me it was do or die. I was totally focused on what I was doing," recalled Gallman. "You can't show it if you don't know it. There's no way to bull your way through it. Either you could cut it or you couldn't."

A Colonel Named 'MAGGIE'

Martha Raye's courage and care for U.S. troops span 50 years. "Colonel Maggie" has a big heart for those who serve.

.....



COLONEL MAGGIE—Martha Raye's field nickname was given to her by the Army's elite Green Berets.

SOME heroes receive honors on the battlefield. Others aren't recognized until much later. Margaret Yvonne Theresa Reed, better known as "Martha Raye," is a genuine American heroine. She did her part in three wars, was wounded twice, and is admired by millions of GIs. Finally, after almost 50 years of selfless dedication to the nation's fighting men and women, Martha Raye has been nominated for

the Presidential Medal of Freedom.

"Maggie" was one of the first to enter the World War II battlefield. She didn't carry a carbine or command a vessel. She entertained the troops. In early 1942, she and three others were already in North Africa, entertaining troops with songs, dance and jokes months before the USO mobilized. Once the USO was put in motion, Raye was quick to enlist and toured every theater from North Africa to the South Pacific, sharing the stage with such legends as Bob Hope and Eddie Cantor.



DESERT FOX—Songs and jokes endeared Miss Raye to U.S. troops in North Africa in early 1942.

sometimes entertaining as few as three American troops. A doctor reported she assisted him in combat surgery for 15 hours, then went on to reprise her role in *Hello Dolly* in a hangar super-heated by a tropical sun. She collapsed of exhaustion afterward and told a worried medic attending her: "Honey, I've had worse hangovers."

She could have gained publicity from her eight tours of Vietnam, a total of 69 weeks, but chose, instead, to carry letters and messages home to soldiers' loved ones. She comforted the wounded, contributed her nursing skills and raised morale wherever and whenever she was needed.

PHOTOS BY AP/WIDEWORLD

SHE
comforted
the wounded
and raised
the morale
wherever
and whenever
she was
needed.

the entire three-hour trip. A couple of the young Marines were so severely wounded that I never expected them to last the trip, but they survived that train ride, I'm convinced, because of the tender care given them by Maggie."

Following Korea, Raye's career soared. She became a major draw at the theaters and her stage plays were packed. Had she, perhaps, concentrated on her acting and singing career, she would have gone further in the industry, many have said. But the Vietnam War erupted, and once again American troops were pressed into action.

"Hollywood blacklisted her for supporting our troops in Vietnam. That's a heck of a way to treat a person whose efforts were aimed at taking care of our men and women in uniform," said Mildred "Noonie" Fortin of the Medals for Maggie Committee, based in Albany, N.Y.

Just how important was this woman to our soldiers? The U.S. Special Forces made her an honorary colonel—the only person so honored. Stacks of letters have flowed into Fortin's office telling how Maggie trudged to some of the most remote regions of Vietnam,

SERVED WELL—In 1986, Raye received DoD honors. The Legion now urges honoring her with the Medal of Freedom.

Early in 1990, she suffered a debilitating stroke. At press time, she was recovering at her home in Hollywood, which also has been a home to GIs and their families. For more than half a century, her trademark "Big Mouth" and her songs, dances and wacky wit have entertained men and women in uniform worldwide. The American Legion National Executive Committee has adopted a resolution urging President Bush to issue the Medal of Freedom to Martha Raye, a true American heroine. *By Ken Scharnberg* □

There are many tales and anecdotes concerning Raye's exploits. In a letter to President George Bush, Lt. Col. Frances M. Liberty, a retired Army nurse, wrote, "In 1952 while serving in Korea, I was assigned train duty bringing wounded Marines from the DMZ to Inchon where they were transferred to a Navy hospital ship. A tiny woman with red-brown hair asked if she could bum a ride.

"This woman went from bunk to bunk and spoke to each of the wounded, soothing their fears and distracting them from their pain. The stench in these trains I still remember, yet this woman stayed with them throughout



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• You can
• be your
• own boss,
• if you
• plan, plan,
• plan. Being
• a veteran
• can help,
• too.



THE Self-Employment URGE

By Gurney Williams III

SHERRI and Philip Elliott of Troy, Ill., would be the first to tell you it isn't easy to clean up by running your own business—even if the business is a thriving laundry.

Sherri has to work seven days a week. Philip continues shift work as an electrician for the Granite City Steel Co. Their two sons, Nathan and Daniel, don't have a lot of time for television after school. Instead, they do chores at home and then help at the Cottonwood Coin Laundry in Glen Carbon, Ill., where coming up dry is good for business. In fact, every cycle brings the Elliott fam-

ily closer to their current goal of a bigger house.

The Elliotts are two of 11.9 million Americans who are living out the classic dream of self-employment. Almost everyone who's followed orders on the job has shared the dream at one time or another. One recent study by Accountemps, a temporary personnel service, found that a full 34 percent of executives at leading U.S. companies would quit to start their own businesses if they had the financial backing.

For a growing number of Americans, it's not just a dream. After years of declining, the number of self-employed people in the United States began to rise after 1987, according to Theresa J. Devine, a labor economist at Pennsylvania State University. Between 1986 and 1988, the latest figures available, the ranks of Americans working for themselves swelled by a million. "Challenge and personal pride" are two major

motivators, according to Accountemps.

Another self-employment expert, Ernest D'Addario of the Small Business Administration (SBA) in New York City, said many workers go out on their own when they become dissatisfied with their jobs or when employers pass out pink slips. But D'Addario warned that it's risky for anyone to try to go into business while unemployed. "Start planning well in advance of trying it on your own," he said.

Self-employment experts say that success requires satisfying the toughest boss in the world: the person facing you in the mirror every morning.

Sherri Elliott had been a service representative with Illinois Bell for 15 years before she and Philip, a former Navy aviation storekeeper, bought the laundromat in July 1990. They had a taste of running their own business in 1978, when Philip was temporarily laid off from his electrician's job. Just when

Gurney Williams III is a New York-based writer.



MOP 'N' GROW—*Sherri Elliott rarely has a day off; husband Philip still keeps his day job. But their Troy, N.Y., laundromat business improves yearly.*

year figures are available. The all-day conferences help potential entrepreneurs cultivate ideas and turn them into business plans likely to attract lenders. Some of the sessions are free. The average charge is \$25 or less, D'Addario said. For information, call your local SBA office, under federal government listings in your phone book.

For the Elliotts, running the business has been as hard as buying it. One day, unknown to Sherri, a customer threw jeans presoaked in gasoline into a washer. A spark between cycles ignited the pants, and blew up the machine. Miraculously, no one was hurt, and insurance picked up most of the repairs.

After that low point, the Elliotts report that new decor and machines have brought a steady increase in business. That gives Sherri, who seldom takes a day off, hope that "eventually I can be just the record-keeper," watch-

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PHOTOS BY SCOTT DINE

JIM HEENSTRA

money was scarce, he risked \$300 to buy a set of wooden Dutch windmill models he thought would sell.

Business was becalmed when he set up the whirring windmills on a street corner, but sales turned brisk when he began offering the \$30 to \$150 models at a craft fair. He kept on selling them as a sideline when he went back to work.

The Elliotts never borrowed a dime for the windmill business. Buying a laundromat required finding a lender willing to advance \$47,000—the biggest loan they had ever taken. The first two banks they approached wouldn't even look at their business plan, a written outline of how they expected to make money and repay the loan over years. A third bank kept the plan for two weeks and then told them that the bank wouldn't finance any laundromats.

AFTER three strikes against them from lenders, the Elliotts were devastated. But Sherri had an idea. "You're a veteran," she told her husband. "Why don't you call the SBA, and see what they can tell you about help for veterans?" Philip's call changed everything.

Not only did the SBA's Small Business Development Center at Southern Illinois University provide help in rewriting the Elliotts' business plan,

but when a bank finally did offer the loan, the SBA also backed it so the Elliotts didn't have to put up any collateral. SBA's Office of Veterans Affairs expedites veterans' paperwork through the system.

SBA's D'Addario, an Army veteran himself, said almost 43,000 veterans attended SBA business development training conferences in 1989, the latest



SWITCH—*Thomas Honsa took what he knew as a dentist and put it into anti-vibration devices.*

Desert Shield and Desert Storm-era veterans are now eligible to join The American Legion. At press time the bill extending Legion membership to those veterans had passed the House and Senate and was awaiting the President's signature.

The bill authorizes members of the Armed Forces to join The American Legion if they served at least one day on active duty from Aug. 2, 1990, to the date of cessation of Gulf War hostilities, as determined by Congress. The cessation date had not been announced at press time.

The Legion passed Res. 1 authorizing the new membership eligibility dates during the 73rd National Convention held in Phoenix last September.

Those with service-connected disability ratings now have two years instead of one from the date of the rating to apply for Service Disabled Veterans Insurance (SDVI).

The new law also provides lump sum payments of gratuitous SDVI instead of monthly installment payments to eligible veterans who become incompetent due to service-connected disabilities and who died before applying for the insurance.

In addition, the law also allows National Service Life Insurance policyholders who have accumulated dividends in a dividend credit or deposit account to use those funds to purchase additional paid-up coverage during a one-year open season, from Sept. 1, 1991 to Aug. 31, 1992.

For more information on the new insurance changes call VA toll-free at 1-800-669-8477.

Congress has tightened the reins on another benefit for retirees and certain disabled veterans.

Enlisted retirees entering either the U.S. Soldiers' and Airmen's Home (USSAH) or the Naval Home now face tougher admission requirements.

Previously there was no age limit for admission to the USSAH in Washington, D.C. All that was necessary was a 20-year retirement from active service as enlisted or warrant officers. Now, the veteran must be at least 60 years old.

The same admission requirements apply to the Naval Home in Gulfport, Miss. Previously, residents of the Naval Home had to be at least 65 years old.

The Congressional action, however, was good news for some retired servicewomen. Now, retired enlisted women with pre-1948 service are eligible for the homes.

Other changes hit the veterans' pocketbooks. User fees were increased. Now, new residents of both homes must forfeit 25 percent of their Social Security benefits and any federal retirement. Previously they were charged 25 percent of only their military retirement and any VA compensation.

Congress also ruled that effective Nov. 5, 1991, all active duty enlisted sailors and Marines must contribute 50 cents a month to help support the Naval Home. Also, all fines and

forfeitures from Naval and Marine Corps courts-martial and Article 15s will go into a trust fund for the Naval Home. The USSAH has been supported this way for many years.

There also was a change in the admission requirements for disabled veterans who did not retire from the service but are still eligible for the homes. Enlisted veterans who are unable to earn a living because of non-service-connected disabilities now are only eligible if they served in a war zone. Previously, they only had to serve during a time of war.

Enlisted veterans who are unable to earn a living because of service-connected disabilities are eligible, regardless of when they served.

For further information about the U.S. Soldiers' and Airmen's Home, call 1-800-422-9988, or write the Admissions Office, USSAH, Washington, DC 20317. For information on the Naval Home, call 1-800-332-3527 or write to, Residence Affairs, Naval Home, 1800 Beach Dr., Gulfport, MS 39507.

Veterans using VA pharmacies must pay a nominal fee for prescriptions in some cases, according to VA officials.

The Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1990 requires veterans receiving VA outpatient care for non-service-connected ailments to pay \$2 for each 30-day supply, or less.

Veterans under VA treatment for service-connected conditions and veterans rated 50 percent or more for service-connected disabilities are exempt from the copayment.

Veterans looking to go into business for themselves may find it easier than before. Texas entrepreneur, Don Dwyer, the Small Business Administration (SBA) and the International Franchise Association (IFA) have combined forces to assist veterans in buying businesses of their own.

According to Dwyer, president of The Dwyer Group, who created and spearheaded VetFran (Veterans Transition Franchise Initiative), it's now possible for a veteran to purchase a franchise business with no money down.

"More than 100 companies have endorsed VetFran and have agreed to either reduce their up-front franchise fee or to finance up to 50 percent of the fee at market interest rates," said IFA president William B. Cherkasky.

The deadline for veterans to apply for funding is Aug. 15, 1993. Veterans will have two years from the date of their discharge to take advantage of VetFran.

Some of the retail and service businesses endorsing VetFran include: Lee's Famous Recipe Country Chicken, Dynamic Air Freight, Career Blazers, Success Motivation Institute, General Business Services, Profusion Systems, Gymboree, Pak Mail Centers of America, Dryclean USA, Spring Crest Company, and Airways Rent-A-Car.

To apply for VetFran and receive a complete listing of participating businesses, send \$1 and a stamped, self-addressed envelope to VetFran, P.O. Box 3146, Waco, TX 76707.

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A LEGION TRADITION

Thousands of Legionnaires daily volunteer their services at VA hospitals. They are unsung heroes to hospitalized veterans.



BOOSTER—Volunteers are vital to the healing process say experts. Past Dept. of Iowa Commander Betty Andrews cheers up Larry Philbrick.

THE sky is overcast and the sun has not yet risen as Betty Andrews, Past Department Commander of Iowa, climbs from a warm bed. A light powder of snow swirls across the windows, a warning that roads will be slick, but it's Thursday, an important day for her.

Andrews is a volunteer for the VA Voluntary Services (VAVS) and she knows the people at the VA Medical Center (VAMC) in Iowa City, 26 miles away, are expecting and counting on her.

"I put in eight hours every Thursday," Andrews said. "I come home tired at the end of the day, but there's a deep satisfaction, too. I know that I've contributed something worthwhile during those hours."

Andrews is one of thousands of Legionnaires across the country who contribute their time, skills and money to the VAVS. In 1990, based on The American Legion Consolidated Post Reports, Legionnaires contributed more than 1.75 million hours of their time and donated more than \$2 million to VAVS.

"I'm always amazed at the dedication of our volunteers," said Robert Reimers, Chief of Voluntary Services (CVS) at VAMC, Sioux Falls, S.D. "Last year we recorded 74,380 scheduled volunteer hours and another 5,500 hours from 'drop-in' volunteers who come in by the carload from Posts around the region." The Sioux Falls facility is not large, ranking 122 out of 172 VA hospitals in size.

Despite those impressive statistics,

Reimers and other chiefs of VA voluntary services are continually fighting rumors and misconceptions about volunteers getting stuck with the dirty jobs VA employees don't want to do. "That's simply not true," said William Turner, CVS at the VA facility in Boise, Idaho. "Most CVS screen their volunteers very closely and try to match experience, training and skills to the positions needed."

In fact, Turner said he knows of a retired surgical technician who now volunteers in the operating room. "We can't afford to waste good talent," he said.

Turner said a report by the Bureau of Labor Statistics offers some insight into the cash value of VA volunteers. The bureau cited the value of the average American volunteer's time at \$10. Translated into annual terms, Turner's Boise facility receives about 75,000 volunteer hours at a saving of more than \$750,000 in wages yearly.

Although never verified, most people believe that VA facilities in rural areas receive a larger share of volunteer hours than their metropolitan counterparts. "This clearly reflects the importance our smaller Posts place on volunteer work in these areas," said Chester Stellar, Chairman of the Legion's Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation Commission.

"In small towns, the Post is the center of activities, and people in these communities tend to really get behind a project and promote it. They know they are contributing something worthwhile when they give of their time and talent," said Stellar.

"Volunteerism is a Legion tradition," said A. V. "Bubba" Akin Jr., Department of Georgia Service Officer. "Sometimes it takes the form of regularly scheduled visits to VA facilities; sometimes it means working with the homeless in the Legion's experimental rehabilitation program; sometimes it's simply helping out with fund-raisers or helping hospitalized veterans."

That spirit of volunteerism is easily recognized in Georgia by Posts' cash donations to VA. Akin said Georgia Posts donated \$16,425 in 1990—enough to place color televisions for patients in every VA facility statewide.

While donations are welcomed and appreciated, the backbone of VA support is the thousands of volunteers who file, answer phones, drive patients to and from their homes, organize social

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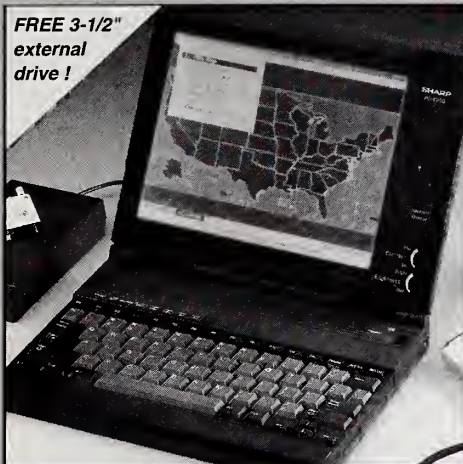
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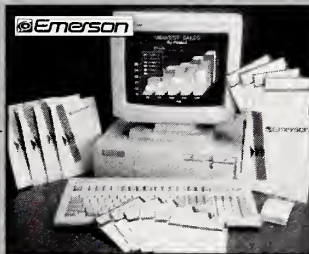
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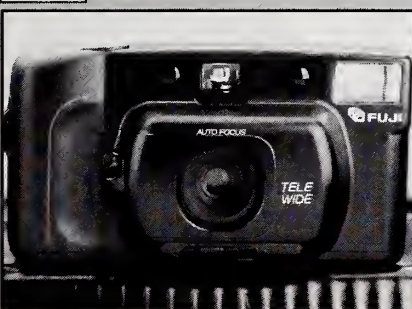
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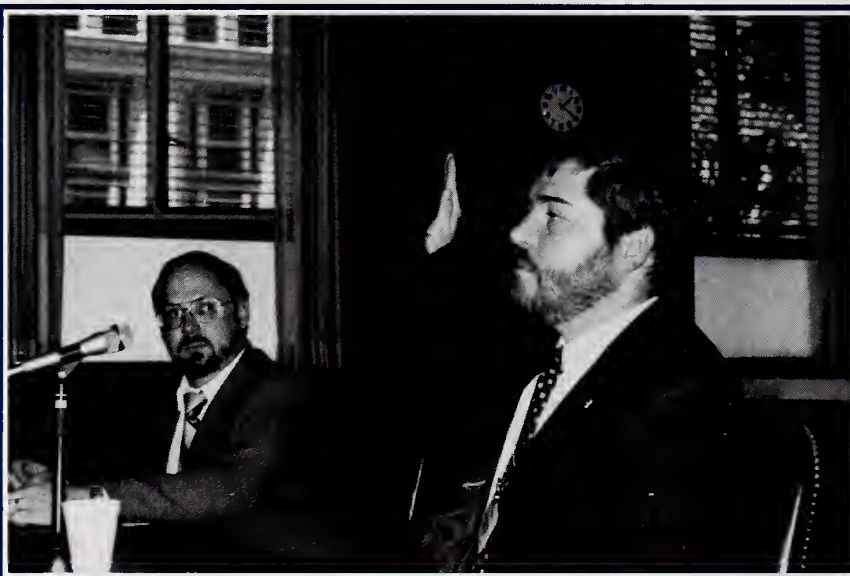
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VA TO CHANGE CLAIMS PROCEDURES

*The Court of Veterans Appeals makes its mark.
VA will have to provide more help, listen
to civilian doctors and reopen some claims.*



ON BOARD—Jeffery Stahlman, right, and his Legion representative, Gerald E. Vandenberg, appear before BVA. It has to follow new guidelines for claims.

TWO years of decisions by the Court of Veterans Appeals (COVA) are beginning to have a major impact on veterans filing claims for benefits.

The good news is veterans can use a wider range of records and information to support their claims. Also, VA will have more uniform standards for deciding claims.

The bad news is veterans could wait longer for VA to resolve a claim.

Because of COVA rulings:

- VA now must use information from veterans' personal doctors or civilian medical records in deciding a claim.
- VA must consider the impact of ancillary factors when a service-con-

nected disability worsens.

- VA must help veterans in gathering military and civilian evidence and records to support a claim.

- VA must reopen claims if there are new and relevant facts that could significantly help the claim.

The Board of Veterans Appeals (BVA), which reviews contested claims, has sent back to regional offices increasing numbers of claims to meet COVA's new standards. BVA had received 45,000 claims during the first nine months of 1991. Twenty-eight percent were remanded, compared to 23.5 percent for 1990. Much of the increase can be attributed to COVA, Charles L. Cragin, chairman of the BVA told Congress.

At year's end, VA was hurriedly writ-

ing new guidelines for dealing with claims. At press time, the COVA rulings were effective at the BVA level, but had not yet reached the VA regional offices. VA officials expect all levels of VA should be operating within the new guidelines by early summer.

These guidelines will require all claims offices to use the same standards. Until now, there often were significant variations within VA.

Here are the major areas covered by COVA's decisions.

Third-Party Medical Opinions

Veterans who file a claim with supporting medical records from personal physicians now are assured that VA must take this medical information into account. If VA disagrees with the civilian doctor's assessment of the veteran's condition, VA must present medical evidence to rebut the claim or seek a third-party opinion.

COVA rulings include language stating that the medical opinion of the adjudicating physician does not carry more weight than that of the veteran's own physician.

Ancillary Conditions

Veterans with a service-connected condition that worsens due to secondary, non-service connected problems now can expect VA to consider these secondary factors. In addition, VA examining physicians now must take ancillary effects into account when evaluating a veteran's condition. They also must note the potential relationship of these effects in their exam report.

Civilian Medical Records

VA examining physicians now must consider veterans' past civilian and military medical history, as well as employment and other pertinent information, in their written evaluations.

Reopening Claims

A veteran whose claim has been denied, then closed, now has a legal basis for reopening his case. Cases must be reopened if there are new facts that add substantial weight to the case.

This doesn't guarantee the claim will be allowed; it only means it will be reconsidered. The issue of whether or not evidence is "new and material" is appealable. More reports citing the information already shown in the records will not be considered as new evidence.

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Hair Strands May Help Legion To Answer POW Questions

SEVERAL strands of hair may help The American Legion answer some crucial questions about U.S. POW/MIAs in Southeast Asia.

The hair, perhaps from an American POW still imprisoned in Southeast Asia, was given to an American Legion official in Washington, D.C., by Circuit Judge Hamilton Gayden of Nashville, Tenn. According to Gayden, the root hairs were taken from Air Force Maj. Albro Lundy Jr., who was listed as an MIA in Laos in 1970.

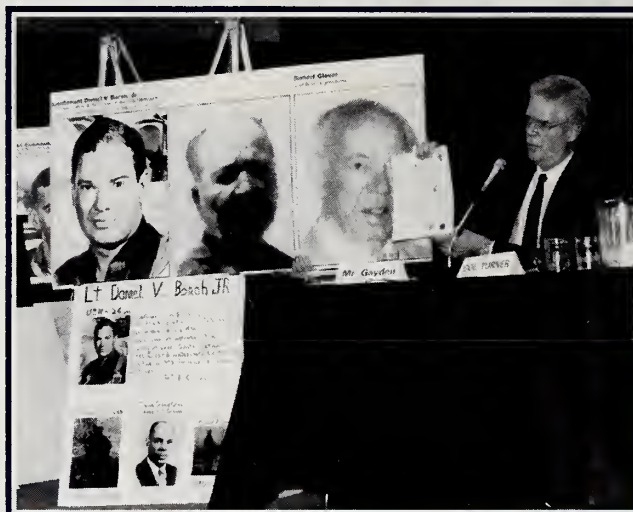
Gayden, testifying before the Select Senate Committee on POW/MIA Affairs in November, said he gave the hair samples to the Legion because he did not trust the government to conduct a proper investigation of the evidence.

Gayden gave no other organization nor the government any of the hair samples. The American Legion accepted the samples after a representative of the Lundy family gave permission to conduct an analysis.

At press time, the Legion was seeking an independent forensic pathologist to compare the hair samples with that of the Lundy family.

Gayden told the committee he believes the Legion will truthfully and thoroughly analyze the hair samples.

"I believe The American Legion is a trustworthy and objective third party," Gayden later explained to THE AMER-



THE FACTS—Hamilton Gayden testifies to the Select Senate Committee on POW/MIA Affairs, after he gave Legion officials hair samples, possibly from a live POW.

ICAN LEGION MAGAZINE. "When you get 3 million American Legionnaires who are sticking together on an issue, then it's going to have a message. If the government can't do it, then 3 million Legionnaires can."

Gayden claims the hair samples were taken from Lundy in Laos in October during a failed rescue attempt. Gayden obtained the hair samples from his court bailiff, Khambang Sibounheuang, who immigrated to Tennessee from Laos in 1975. According to Gayden, Sibounheuang has contacts with the Vietnamese-Laoian-Thai rescue team who tried to free Lundy.

"We understand now that Albro Lundy is in a prison camp guarded by the Vietnamese in Laos and is still alive," Gayden said. "In the

[rescue attempt] process we got three photographs of him, plus 15 root hairs, and a hand print and thumb print."

Gayden kept the original hand print and thumb print, but he gave copies to the committee.

Gayden predicted that if the United States normalized relations with Vietnam, "the Vietnamese will kill the POWs, bury them, then dig up their bones."

During testimony before the committee, John F. Sommer Jr., the executive director of the Legion's Washington Office, stated the Legion's opposition to normalized relations with Vietnam until the POW/MIA issue has been resolved.

In addition, Sommer said U.S. companies' interest in Vietnam oil should not come

before a full accounting of the 2,273 U.S. POW/MIAs in Southeast Asia.

Richard Solomon, Assistant Secretary of State for East Asian and Pacific Affairs, said in a U.S. State Department briefing that American oil companies were very interested in normalizing relations and exploiting Vietnam's oil.

"Some experts expect Vietnam to emerge as a middle-ranking oil producer in the next 10 to 15 years," Sommer testified. "Once Washington recognizes Vietnam, all leverage for resolving the POW/MIA issue will be lost. The American Legion cannot stand by and watch our country abandon its POWs for oil or any other commodity."

Sommer also urged the committee to:

- Call in every document relating to the 1,400 live-sighting reports for analysis.

- Review the "acid test" used by the Defense Intelligence Agency (DIA) to distill the number of live-sightings to "believable" reports.

- Examine the methodology used in collecting information and compiling live-sighting reports.

- Review the structure and operation of the DIA Special office for POWs and MIAs.

- Obtain satellite photographs from the National Reconnaissance Office that provide the location of reported POW camp sites.

- Review the report of the 1986 Tighe Commission, which investigated the POW/MIA issue.

- Analyze the logistical support and resources provided the Joint Casualty Resolution Center and the POW/MIA Office in Hanoi.

- Determine what has been done with records contained in archives and repositories throughout the United States

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that contain information on search and rescue missions conducted by the U.S. Armed Forces in Southeast Asia.

- Thoroughly investigate charges that U.S. officials have intimidated, coerced, discredited and ignored sources who have provided data concerning live POWs.

- Determine why information concerning the POW/MIA issue has consistently been withheld by the Department of Defense and has remained classified.

- Determine if the Secretary of State ordered the destruction of documents relating to POWs and MIAs by four sub-elements of the department.

- Determine if U.S. security was violated by providing classified information relating to POWs and MIAs to the Vietnamese government.

- Review the methods used by The Central Identification Laboratory in Hawaii in identifying remains.

- Review DIA's handling of photographs of alleged POWs.

- Review the allegations in the resignation memorandum of retired Army Col. Millard Peck, former chief of the Special Office for POW/MIA at DIA.

- Review the findings in the report by the minority staff of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

- Fully investigate the books, reports and articles that have been published recently, setting forth allegations that intelligence data collected during the Vietnam War and subsequent years were disregarded by the U.S. government.

"We trust that a full examination of the charges that have been made through the years will be carried out as part of the overall POW/MIA investi-



JOHN SOMMER
Gave committee
Legion recommendations.

gation," Sommer told the committee. "The families of those who are missing deserve no less."

Sommer also cited a lack of responsiveness to the POW/MIA issue by U.S. govern-

ment officials. Sommer told the committee that during his trip to Southeast Asia last summer the Vietnamese government provided information about 12 American MIAs that the U.S. government already knew about but had not made public. Sommer also stated the U.S. government has not released information on other MIA cases.

"In reviewing the available body of information relating to this issue, the belief that there are POWs being held in Indochina cannot, and must not, be summarily dismissed," Sommer said.

The Senate committee, chaired by Sen. John F. Kerry of Massachusetts, is Congress' first POW/MIA-related investigative body with the power to subpoena documents and witnesses.

After the Legion's Fall

Meeting of the National Executive Committee, National Commander Dominic D. DiFrancesco appointed a Legion special POW/MIA committee. According to Res. 291 passed at the 73rd National Convention in Phoenix, this committee will thoroughly review information relating to POW/MIAs and explore possible avenues of obtaining a full accounting for POW/MIAs.

DiFrancesco selected PNC Robert S. Turner from Georgia to chair the committee. Other committee members are Larry M. Feldman of Delaware, Alan G. Lance of Idaho, Carl Rice of Oregon, Judge Norman M. Turner of California, and ex-officio member William M. Detweiler of Louisiana, the chairman of the National Foreign Relations Commission.

Kansas Post 173 Helps Ride Out The Storm

THROUGHOUT Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm, Post 173 of Hayes, Kan., assisted families of those serving in the 170th Maintenance Company of the Kansas Army National Guard.

The efforts were coordinated by Department of Kansas Historian Robert Masters, a member of Post 173, and Charles Staab, Post 173 Commander. Working with the family assistance personnel of the Kansas National Guard, Legionnaires, Auxiliary members and Sons of The American Legion members sponsored several support meetings for military families.

During the sessions, Post

173 arranged to have an attorney speak to families about legal issues, including the Soldiers and Sailors Relief Act, in addition to distributing information about the Legion's Family Support Network. While Staab explained basic home repairs, Post 173 Auxiliary's Carol Klaus, a family financial planner, outlined budgeting and cost savings for the families. A certified public accountant also was present to provide tax tips.

Many Legionnaires, Auxiliary members and Sons of The American Legion members volunteered their time to help move families and provide babysitting and other emergency assistance.

The Forty & Eight, American Legion and Auxiliary

sponsored Klinky, the Clown, who presented a free magic show for military families at Post 173, and Auxiliary members served soft drinks and cookies.

At the request of the Kansas Army National Guard, The American Legion provided and installed an exterior flood light on the local Armory to fly the U.S. Flag 24 hours in remembrance of Middle East troops.

When the troops returned home this past summer, Post 173 sponsored a community-wide dinner and dance for the participants of Desert Storm and their families. Later in the week, the community, with Post 173's help, also conducted a welcome home parade and picnic.

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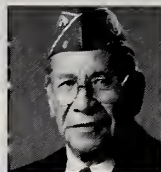
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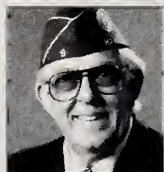
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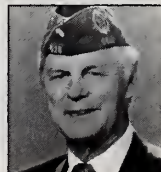
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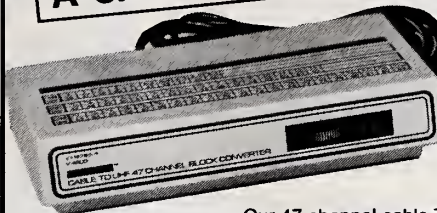
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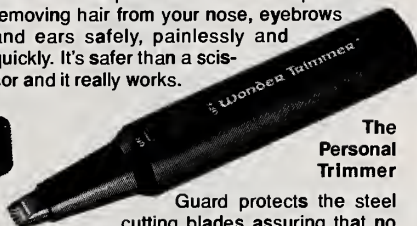
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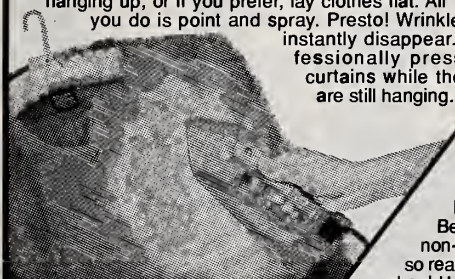


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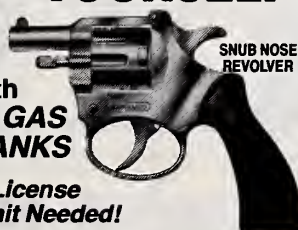
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<input type="checkbox"/> Rolling Ruler		3.95	
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Make of car			
<input type="checkbox"/> Superhear		7.95	
<input type="checkbox"/> Moccasin Leather Shoes		9.95	
<input type="checkbox"/> Mens' size <input type="checkbox"/> Women's size			
<input type="checkbox"/> Steam Away Wrinkles		9.95	
<input type="checkbox"/> 8 Shot Snub Nose		29.95	
<input type="checkbox"/> Tear Gas \$8.95 <input type="checkbox"/> Blanks \$10.95			
Shipping & Handling charges add			\$1.00
Total			

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Address _____

City _____

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THE DEPARTMENT COMMANDERS '91-'92



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Alabama



Ann Jennings
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Marco A. Valenzuela
Arizona



Harry Ferrell
Arkansas



Al Krank
California



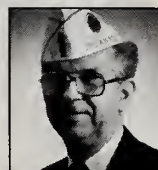
Eric Mullett
Canada



Thomas L. Bock
Colorado



William J. Pomfret
Connecticut



William Anderson
Delaware



Mervin F. Boyer, Jr.
D.C.



Dennis R. Boland
Florida



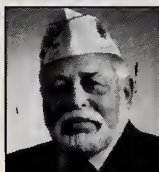
Douglas Haggan
France



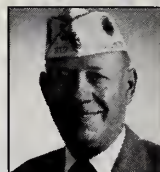
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Tom D. Brandt
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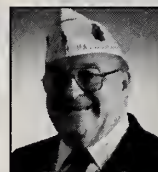
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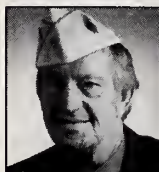
Daniel A. Ludwig
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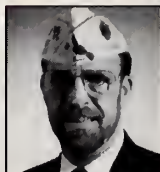
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Utah



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Enjoy 'Flame-Broiled' Steaks & 'Oven-Roasted' Chickens

Right In Your Own **MICROWAVE!**

"Steal" this MICROWAVE BIONIC COOKER at our incredible low price!

OUR
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\$10



1-yr money-back guarantee
Allow 6-8 weeks for shipment

BIONIC COOKER "Flame-Broils"
Juicy Steaks & "Oven-Roasts" Entire Chickens
In Your MICROWAVE—
with no added fat, oil or butter!

- "Flame-Broil" steaks to rich charcoal color—*3 minutes!*
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- Create exciting vegetable & leftover meals—*4½ minutes!*
- **DIETER'S DELIGHT**—no added fat, oil or butter!
- **ELIMINATES** excess calories and cholesterol!

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"Steal" this amazing low calorie BIONIC COOKER for only \$10 *if you respond before March 31.* **SORRY**—limit 3 per address. *We reserve right to extend time and quantity guarantees. Hurry!*

MICROWAVE BIONIC COOKER
Only \$10—MAIL NOW!

YES, rush no-fat Bionic Cooker at "steal" price—*immediately!*

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Card Expire Date (Mo) _____ (Yr) _____ (R62140-01)

Mr/Mrs/Ms/Miss _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

**MAIL
TO:**

RBM Ltd., Bionic Cooker, Dept. 570-217,
Box 1206, Westbury, NY 11595

HOW TO USE VETNET

To find out specific information on a military unit listed on these pages, call

1-900-773-8387

and be sure to have the unit's five-digit VetNet number handy. (The VetNet number is printed after the unit name.)

VetNet will tell you the price of the call and give you basic instructions. After the greeting, you will be asked to enter the five-digit VetNet number for the group.

You need Touch Tone telephone service to access VetNet. If you don't have Touch Tone, you may receive further information by calling

(317) 635-8411, ext. 272.

OUTFIT REUNIONS

Reunion coordinators can enroll their units in VetNet by sending a self-addressed, stamped envelope to VetNet, THE AMERICAN LEGION MAGAZINE, P.O. Box 1055, Indianapolis, IN 46206. Unit names are published only one time per unit per year.

Army

1/77th Artillery 16629
10th Arm'd Div. Veterans Assn. 15959
27th AAA Bn., Fort Benning 22718
29th TOPO Engrs. 22719
53rd Inf. Assn. 15478
62nd Engr. Const. Bn. 14207
63rd Inf. Div. Assn. 10335
70th Inf. Div. Assn. (WWII) Western States 16521
74th CA AA Rgt. 16715
78th Div. Hudson Valley & Upper NY & NJ 22720
84th Engr. Const. Bn. 14202
98th Inf. Div. 22721
104th Inf. Div. (OH Chapter/WWII) 15723
104th Inf. Rgt., 26th Inf. Div. 16581
119th Evac. Hospital (WWII) 15903
128th AAA Gun Bn. (WWII) 16612
139th OBAM Bn., 3037 Co. 15462
161st Avn Co., 14th Avn Bn. (Vietnam/1966-67) 16309
182nd Station Hospital 10310
190th FA Grp. Assn./190th/200th FA Bns. 16281
204th FA Bn. 10277
231st Station Hospital 16448
233rd General Hospital 16265
278th Rgt. Combst Team 16732
289th Station Hospital 22722
300th General Hospital (WWII) 16120
303rd Inf., 97th Div., D Co. 11160
332nd Engr. Rgt. Assn. 16382
337th/1338th Combst Engrs. 15779
414th Engrs. (WWII) 15979
478th AAA AW Bn. (WWII) 15222
508th Parachute Inf. Rgt. (WWII) 16697
533rd EB&SR, A&HQ Cos. Shore Bn. 16356
807th OBAM Bn. (WWII) 22723
720th MP Bn. 10481
728th ROB Bn. Assn. 20199
727th Amphib. Tractor Bn. 14200
749th Tank Bn. Assn. 15900
790th Ord. Co., 90th Inf. Div. 16658
802nd Engr. Assn. 15223
978th FA Bn., 35th FA Regt. 15938
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Tin Can Sailors Inc. 22729
USS Adm. W.S. Benson AP-120 18042
USS Arkansas BB-33 17774
USS Besche DD/ODE-470 17870
USS Baron DE-166 17551
USS Bennington CV/CVA/CSV-20 18492
USS Bowditch AGS-4 18605
USS Boxer Assn. 18070
USS Bunker Hill CV-17 Assn. 17502
USS Chevalier DD-805 17575
USS Colahan DD-658 (WWII) 17896
USS Compton DD-705 17911
USS Conyngham DD-371 18563
USS Cronin DE-704 22730
USS Crouter DE-11 18403
USS Currutuck AV-7 14598
USS Dupage APA-41 (WWII) 21950
USS English DD-696 17651
USS Farquhar DE-139 18316
USS Forrestal Assn. 18458
USS Gosper APA-170 18670
USS Griswold DE-7 (WWII) 17836
USS Halford DD-480 17312
USS Harrison DD-573 22248
USS Heritage CVE-73/VC-10 22731
USS Herndon DD-638 18341
USS Independence CV-62 & Air Wings 17567
USS Laning DE-159/APD-55 22694
USS Lowndes APA-154 17452
USS Madison DD-425 (WWII) 10356
USS Manatee AO-58 17656
USS McCloy FF/DE-1038 14408
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USS Mount Katmai AE-16 22736
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USS New Jersey BB-62 17419
USS Newport LST-1179 decommissioning 22737
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USS Noa DD-841 22739
USS Providence CL-82 Assn. 17609
USS Purdy DD-734 17965
USS Robin ATO-140 22740
USS Rochester CA-124 22741
USS Rutland APA-192 (Beach Bn./1944-45) 11208
USS Schenck DD-159/USS Leary DD-158 18669
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USS Sea Cat SS-399 18575
USS Smith DD-378 18355
USS Sproston DD/ODE-577 11202
USS Sterett DD-407 17664
USS Stickell DD/DDR-888 17564
USS Swenning DE-394 18398
USS Tarawa CV/CVA/CSV-40 (Including air groups/ Marines 18423
USS Tennessee BB-43 21362
USS Vicksburg CL-86 17518
USS Weber DE-675/APD-75 17406
USS Williams DE-372 17771
USS Windham Bay CVE-92 18608
USS Yorktown CV-10 Engineering 21623
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VP/VPB-204 (WWII) 22744
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YMS-407 17720

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9th AF Assn. 10800
31st Bomb Sq., 5th Bomb Grp. WWII 22707
33rd TC Sq. 16903
34th Radio Sq. (Mobile) 22708

303rd Air Refueling Sq. (Bermuda Bunch) 15119
315th Ftr. Sq., 324th Ftr. Grp. 15146
401st Civil Engr. Sq/Torrejon AFB Firefighters Assn. 22654
7533rd AP Sq. (London) 22710
Bombardiers, Inc. 21445
Bombardier Class 42-16, Victorville, CA 22711
Buckeye Wing Assn. (302nd Tac. Airlift Wing) 22712
Chambley AB, France (Including Army) 22713
Military History Symposium 22714
Pilot Class 50-E 15013

Army Air Forces

2nd Ferry Grp./2nd Foreign Trans. Grp. (WWII) 17006
23rd Photo Recon. Sq. 22705
47th/479th Service Sqs. 21975
50th Troop Carrier Wing, HQ Sq. 16898
61st Trp. Carrier Sq. 16968
63rd Station Compl. Sq. (Sp) (WWII) 16901
482nd Bomb Grp. (England/WWII) 16966
559th Bomb Sq., 387th Bomb Grp. (M) (WWII) 16890
560th, 561st, 562nd S.A.W. Bns. (WWII) 16982
821st Med. Air Evac. Sq. (CBI Theater) 22162
119th MP Co. (Tempehof AB) 22709
B-24 Muroc WWII Vets 16936
HQ Sq., 13th AF 16983
VBC (5th Bomber Command) 5th AF 22706

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2/5 Fox (Vietnam) 22715
2nd Amph. Tractor Bn. (WWII) 17129
6th Def. Bn./Defenders of Midway Island 17081
Marine Advisory Unit, Vietnam 22716
VMF-251 22717

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Horse-Jeep Patrol, High Island, TX 1941-45 17061
USCGC Mojave WPG-47 17012

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American Defenders of Bataan & Corregidor 17303
Mobile Riverine Task Force 117 22726
National Order of Corpsmen & Combat Medics 17280
Okinawa Survivors (WWII) 17242

LET'S GET TOGETHER

This column is for notices for the purpose of getting people together to hold a reunion. Notices should be submitted on official forms that can be obtained by sending a self-addressed, stamped envelope to VetNet, THE AMERICAN LEGION MAGAZINE, P.O. Box 1055, Indianapolis, IN 46206. Unit names are published only one time per unit per year.

Army

1st Inf. Div., 1st Sq., 4th Cav 22670
14th Avn. Bn., 161st/170th Avn. Cos., (Vietnam/1966-67) 22671
44th DivArty/123rd FA Regt. (WWII/Korea) 22657
49th FA Bn., 7th Inf. Div. (Japan/Korea 1950s) 22672
71st Signal Serv. Bn., D Co. 22673
89th/556th QM Railhead Cos. (1941-43) 22674
94th Engr. Const. Bn., C Co., Fort Belvoir 22683
141st General Hospital 22675
362nd Engr. Co. (LE) Vietnam 22676
406th Transportation Det. Unit (Vietnam/1966-67) 22677
477th QM Truck Regt. (Alaska Hwy) 22678
542nd EB&SR, D Co. 22679
578th Amb. Co. (WWII) 22680
789th FA Bn. 22658
9206th Tech. Serv. Unit (WWII) 22681
NCO Candidates School, Ft. Benning, Ga. 22682
Special Engr. Det., Manhattan Project 1942-45 22684

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Amphib. Force (1942 Rosneath Invasion) 22685
 Assn. of Gunners Mates 22689
 CBMU-595 22686
 Floyd Bennett Field, Brooklyn (1942-46) 22688
 LSM-172 22696
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 LST-40 22699
 Navy 115, Gitmo Bay, Fleet Camera Party/
 AFPTG&MAA Div. 22687
 PCF Class 2269 22690
 SC-696/SC-697 Sub Chasers 22691
 USS Antaries (1942-45) 22692
 USS Leedstown AP-73 Survivors 22695
 USS Newman DE-205/APD-59 17793
 USS Rotanin AK-108 22656
 USS Skywatcher AGR-3 22652
 USS Tatum DE-789 22700
 USS Thuban AKA-19 22702
 USS Toscana AKN-3 22701
 USS Van Valkenburgh DD-656 (Korea) 18451
 VAW-13 22704
 YMS-293 22703

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1st Aircraft Repair Unit (Floating) AARU(F) 22662
 19th Installation Sq., 19th AB Grp. (Kadena/1953-55)
 22663
 864th AC&W Sq./4629th SAGE Sq., HQ, PHADS (1959-
 63) 22664
 Pilot Class 67-D, Williams AFB 22665

Army Air Forces

100th Sq., 42nd Bomb Grp. (M) 13th AF 22666
 489th Serv. Sq., 13th Serv. Grp., 7th AF 22668
 Crew of B-17G (Pilot Ed Dahlborg), 510th Sq., 351st
 Bomb Grp. (WWII) 22669
 Pilot Class 44-F Marshall College (WWII) 14294
 WACS, 123rd BA, Sq. A 22667

Marines

VMSB-235/236 14332

Coast Guard

Rescue Flotilla 1 (1944/Normandy) 22659
 USCG Station, Guam (1954) 22660

Miscellaneous

Allied Staff, Berlin (USCOB) 22661



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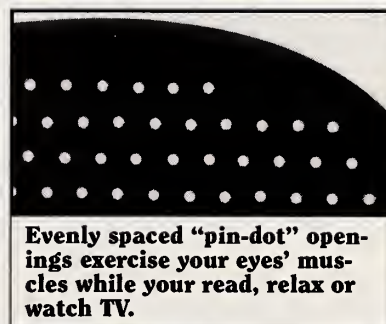
Now you may help improve your vision naturally with the Aerobic Training Eyeglass System™. Over 30 years of experience has shown that people of all ages and all prescription strengths may improve their sight by exercising their eyes!

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- Reduce the need for bifocals or trifocals



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 Huntington Station, NY 11746

Yes! Please rush me:

_____ Aerobic Eyeglass System™ only \$19.95 plus \$2.95 p&h.

_____ SAVE \$5.00! Get 2 for just \$34.95 plus \$4.95 p&h.

CA, MI, and NY residents add appropriate sales tax.

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You must be delighted with your purchase. If not, you may return it for a prompt and full refund. All orders are processed immediately and notification will be sent in case of delay. Shipment is guaranteed within 60 days.

SUCCESS

Continued from page 39

member has been on the board since 1957; and E. Roy Stone Jr., a Past National Commander of The American Legion and the agency's chairman for more than 20 years, has been a member since 1960.

Stone's contributions have not gone unnoticed. "E. Roy is a dedicated, tireless worker who has spearheaded

improvements in the program, and whose vision has been a constant source of inspiration," said Dusenbury. In addition, the voc-rehab facility at Greenville, the veterans' pavilion at the state hospital and the state office conference room have been named in his honor.

The Computer Training Program, launched in 1984, has been a prime resource for clients whose hard work and hands-on training have led to private sector employment. Program Administrator James Washam said training is structured to simulate the business environment. "We don't have

grades as such; we have performance evaluations just like in the real world. We try to stress to our clients that they're not competing against others; they're competing against themselves," Washam said.

The curriculum is tough so the washout rate is high, about 23 percent. But the success rate proves the department's approach works, and the number of clients who don't make it is proportionately lower than in most states with similar programs. In the past seven years, 93 percent of computer programmer clients who made it through the training found work; and a 70 percent placement rate is the norm for clients in the computer-assisted drafting training.

"Every time we place someone in a job, we save the taxpayers between \$8,000 and \$12,000 a year," Washam said, noting that this enables clients to earn a paycheck instead of drawing extra disability payments. "We're successful because this is a practical, bottom-line, go-to-work type operation," said Washam.

Navy veteran Richard L. Abbott Jr., 30, was working as a motor equipment operator for the city of Columbia when he injured his back and spent rehab time in the Comprehensive Evaluation Center. Evaluators tested Abbott and noted he scored high in computer skills so in January 1991 he was enrolled in the computer-assisted drafting course on campus. Abbott said he hopes to graduate and someday pursue an engineering degree.

"Everyone in the program has a great attitude. They encourage you and push you to succeed," said Abbott, who lives with his wife and 2-year-old son in nearby Pelion, S.C.

The success of the South Carolina Vocational Rehabilitation Department can be measured in the staff's unique approach to rehabilitation and training problems common to all states. Dusenbury credits the department's effort to promote social skills along with a positive sense of competitiveness among clients. "Through the process of adjustment, clients get to see they're not the only persons in the world with their particular situations. If they're challenged, if they're jostled a little bit, they will get a sense of camaraderie with other people," he said.

Another message emblazoned in the stone monument greets visitors to the West Columbia campus. It is the words of poet Robert Browning which Dusenbury likes to quote: "Ah, But a man's reach should exceed his grasp!"

By Tony Miller

CARIBBEAN CRUISE RESERVATION CERTIFICATE

SAVE \$500 ON THE WORLD'S BEST CRUISE LINE.

Holland America is pleased to honor our nation's military by offering savings of \$500 per couple (\$250 per person) on select 7-day Eastern Caribbean cruises aboard the ms Westerdam from January 18 through March 28. On board, you'll enjoy delicious cuisine, dazzling entertainment, and of course, the graciousness of Holland America's people. As you might imagine, space is limited. So we urge you to fill out this certificate and present it to your travel agent with your cruise deposit at once. And discover for yourself all the reasons *Lifestyles TV Series* recently named us "the best cruise line in the world."

Free air from major U.S. gateway cities.

Passenger Name (s) _____

Sailing Date _____

Booking No. _____

Travel Agent ARC/IATA/CLIA # _____

Contract #1500

Not combinable with other promotional offers. Some restrictions apply. Ship's Registry: Bahamas



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"Electric" Train Sets

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\$5



Full 1-year
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BONUS OFFER
Farmland Set-Only \$3 Extra



Includes barn, stone walls, fences, wind mill, horses, cows, sheep, chickens, pigs, geese, rabbits, goat, farmer, wife, 2 daughters, collie dog. 50 pieces in all!

As part of a nationwide publicity campaign, a multi-million dollar New York firm will offer its fantastic set of battery-operated electric trains—the nationally advertised TRANS-AMERICAN GOLDEN EAGLE FLYER™—for the astonishing price of only \$5 each to the first 10,000 who respond before March 31.

Each set includes an independently battery-powered, turn-of-the-century style locomotive—pulling a coal tender, boxcar and caboose. Also included are 8 sections of modular tracks and a dual-position lever-switch that shunts the entire train from track to track and from curve to straightaway.

Easy finger action. Able to run continuously from noon to midnight (a full 12 hours) on just one ordinary alkaline "AA" flashlight battery (not included). For ages 3 and up.

SORRY—limit two (2) sets per address at this price. But if your request is mailed early enough (before March 25) you may order up to 7. We reserve right to extend time and quantity guarantee. Hurry!

☐ Yes, rush (*how many*) _____
"GOLDEN EAGLE" Electric Train
Set(s) for only \$5 each. (R44300)

**BONUS
OFFER**

Farmland Set—Over 50 pieces,
only \$3 per set (*how many*) _____
(R46620)

Add \$2.75 shipping & handling.
In NY, CA add sales tax.
Total \$ _____

Make check payable to RBM Ltd. Or charge to
☐ VISA ☐ MASTERCARD
(Enter all 13 or 16 card numbers below.)

Card _____

Exp. Date (Mo) (Yr)

Mr/Mrs

Ms/Miss

Address

City/State/Zip

MAIL TO:

(R46630-01)

**RBM Train Offer, Dept. 570-216,
Box 400, Jericho, NY 11753**

Allow up to 6-8 weeks for shipment.

VA TO CHANGE

Continued from page 48

VA Must Help With Research

Veterans who accumulate enough evidence to justify potential claims now can expect VA to give them some help building those claims. VA must notify veterans of newly discovered military medical records and help them obtain civilian medical records.

While COVA rulings are news for

veterans with claims, VA's carrying them out may prove challenging.

It takes an average of 497 days for a claim to go through the complete appeals process in which claims are: filed; adjudicated; appealed at the regional level; appealed to BVA; and finally acted upon. VA claims officials now must include legal and medical research within claims' decisions, adding more time to appeals at all levels.

In the short term, COVA has created a log jam in BVA's "remand cases." A remand is a claim BVA returns to the VA regional offices for more information, evidence, medical examinations or compliance with the law.

The percentage of remands has risen steadily in recent years, from 18.8 percent in FY 1985 to 28 percent in FY 1991. This means that if you appeal your claim, your chances are better than one in four that BVA will return it to your regional office for more information.

"Too often, a denial was made without fully developing or adjudicating the claim," said Phil Wilkerson, assistant director of The American Legion's Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation Division. But Wilkerson pointed out that remands also represent double work and months of delay.

"The American Legion has expressed concern regarding this situation and the need for additional staffing that will permit the regional offices not only to implement changes in the law, but process claims correctly and expeditiously," Wilkerson said.

COVA decisions haven't turned VA claims procedures upside down, however. Of the 2,500 claims COVA considered since it began deciding cases in 1990, more than half were summarily dismissed.

How long will it take for these new procedures to be practiced by VA on the local level so BVA won't have to remand them?

It is not going to happen right away.

BVA chairman Cragin believes it will take close to five years for VA to absorb the impact of these and future COVA rulings. Because so many rulings require extra work, the time it takes an appeal to go through the system during the next two years might increase if VA does not hire more staffers.

But Cragin projects that by 1997 that time should drop to 139 days, because the backlog of cases is expected to be less severe.

The full implications of these decisions will not emerge for a few years. Yet the impact on VA is clear. As Cragin told Congress last year: "COVA now controls VA's claims adjudication."

By Ken Scharnberg

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Readers who can help these veterans are urged to write a witness letter, including the CID number. Send the letters to CID, The American Legion Magazine, Box 1055, Indianapolis, IN 46206.

Notices are published only at the requests of American Legion Service Officers representing claimants, using Search for Witness Forms available from Department Legion Service Officers.

100th Personnel Unit, Republic of the Philippines
Arthur J. Jones needs witnesses to verify that while stationed at the 100th Personnel Unit, Manila from August 1946 to December 1946, he suffered PTSD. Contact CID 1327.

Westover AFB, MA Russell E. Strong needs witnesses to verify that while stationed at Westover AFB on June 15, 1945, he suffered knee injuries in an aircraft accident. Contact CID 1329.

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For more than 25 years, W.M. has been recognized as one of America's leading experts on gardening and horticulture. He has contributed to several books, and has written countless articles on home gardening for magazines and newspapers. Before his demise, he lectured all across the country and was on the faculty of one of our nation's leading Universities. To protect his family's privacy, we have agreed not to use his name, but every claim in this advertisement is his . . . and every word is true. This statement is notarized to prove it!

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Miracle-Bush™ is our trade name for Super Bush tomato variety. © 1992 MBT Nursery Sales, Inc.

LEGION TRADITION

Continued from page 46

activities or fill dozens of other jobs. And no less significant, but perhaps immeasurable, is the therapeutic value that volunteers' presence has on patients.

Some volunteers gradually build a reputation, such as John Corsiglia, a member of Galileo Post 236 in San Francisco who is known throughout the Bay area as "the guy who plays Santa."

Because of his dedication to hospitalized veterans, he was nominated for the prestigious California volunteer award presented annually by the governor's wife.

Then there's John J. Maus, a member of Alexander Hamilton Post 448, San Francisco, who volunteers at the VA's AIDS outpatient clinic where 600 veterans a week seek testing and treatment.

Sometimes, Legionnaires live too far from a VA facility to volunteer on a regular basis. CVS Reimers said, however, that outlying South Dakota Posts often organize car pools and drive 100 miles or more to the Sioux Falls facility

and organize card games and other activities.

In Boise, which has the only VA facility in Idaho, local business has caught the spirit. Volunteers and businesses have combined to host and assist with activities ranging from ski outings to horseback riding.

Even a local fish hatchery opened its lake to host a veterans-only fishing tournament.

Volunteers loaded patients into vans, buses and cars, and drove them to the lake. The fish were cleaned, frozen and stored at the hospital. When winter halted many outdoor activities, a fish fry was held and awards were presented for the biggest catch and other angling achievements.

In San Francisco, patients look forward to their Legion-sponsored horse race. Volunteers from Galileo Post 236 come once a month, lay a grid on an activity room floor, and volunteer "horses" move from grid to grid down a race track, as patients roll dice to determine how far each thoroughbred volunteer will advance. "Bets" are laid, odds given and favorites are cheered as a Legionnaire calls the race. For many patients, it's the high point of the month.

"A volunteer doesn't have to have any other skill than the ability to communicate," said Department of Iowa Service Officer Robert Payton. "If you can write a letter, listen to a story, or just hold a lonely patient's hand, you're helping with the healing process."

"Many of our patients are hundreds of miles from their homes," said CVS Turner. "Their families cannot afford to come and stay in a motel to visit a veteran every week. That's one thing that makes our volunteers so special. Without them, a lot of patients would simply give up."

CVS across the country agree with Turner's assessment of the healing value. "Our patients look forward to those visits," Reimers said. "Their eyes light up and they become animated. They'll work hard at physical therapy so they can show a volunteer their progress when he or she stops by to visit."

"The bottom line is that these volunteers are heroes," said Stellar. "They are donating their time and effort and energy to better the lives of their fellow veterans. Our VAVS volunteers are true examples of what The American Legion is all about. This country needs more heroes." By Ken Scharnberg

To become a VAVS volunteer, contact the Chief of Voluntary Services at the nearest VA facility. □

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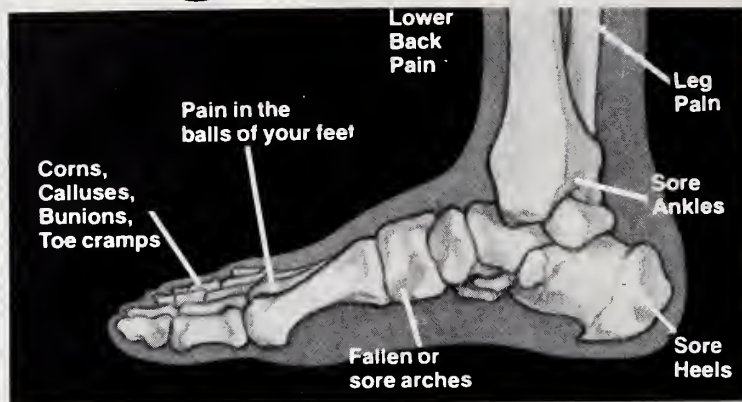
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COMMANDER

Continued from page 8

need to work together to get at least 38 states, the number needed to ratify a constitutional amendment.

Let your elected officials know how important The Flag is.

The Korean War Veterans Memorial. The Legion needs to continue its support of The Korean War Veterans Memorial. Department representatives from across the country put together a donation of \$45,927.40, which was presented to PNC Jake Comer at the Fall Meeting. Comer is on the Advisory Board for The Korean War Veterans Memorial. To date, the Legion has helped raise nearly \$500,000 for the memorial.

Let's give our Korean War veterans a fitting tribute to their valor and sacrifice.

Membership. Fellow Legionnaires,

*As we surpass our
all-time high
membership, we will
become one of the
most powerful voices
in this country.*

●●●●●●●●●●

our strength is in our numbers. Working to solve the POW/MIA issue, fighting for veterans benefits, protecting the Flag, supporting The Korean War Veterans Memorial—all of these missions are strengthened by the fact that The American Legion speaks for over three million veterans.

A new year has come and with it, a chance to elevate the plight of America's veterans to center stage in Congress and in the White House. As the President sits down these next two months to prepare his 1993 budget, he will be thinking about numbers.

As we work together to surpass our 1946 all-time high membership of 3,326,556, we will make The American Legion one of the most powerful voices in this country. And as we get closer to signing our 3,326,557th member, the President will be thinking about two numbers this month: his 1993 budget and the 3.4 million Legionnaires who merit his attention. ☐

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IN MY OPINION

Continued from page 24

remark made headlines, which days later brought an apology from Humphrey.

When politicians with little to lose can be made to toe the PC line (Humphrey had already decided to retire from the Senate), it should not surprise us that the more ambitious among them will say the darnedest things to avoid giving offense. In August, Defense Secretary Dick Cheney declined an opportunity to defend the Defense Department's ban on homosexuals, characterizing the intelligence community's longstanding policy against homosexuality as a "bit of an old chestnut."

GONE are the days when a politician could be so bold and forthright as to tell an all-male audience: "There is no room in this country for hyphenated Americanism. The one absolutely certain way of bringing this nation to ruin, of preventing all possibility of its continuing to be a nation at all, would be to permit it to become a tangle of squabbling nationalities."

Today, the author of that quote, Theodore Roosevelt, might win a few votes from environmentalists for his defense of natural resources, but he could never be elected President.

Some critics of political correctness are optimistic that exposing attempts to suppress free speech will be enough to keep the censors at bay. "Already I find on campus that the activists are more on the defensive and the atmosphere is a little freer than it was six months ago," said D'Souza.

On the other hand, the division between traditional values and the revolutionary ideology of the politically correct continues to widen. "There is no agreed upon standard of logic or ethics," said professor Edwards.

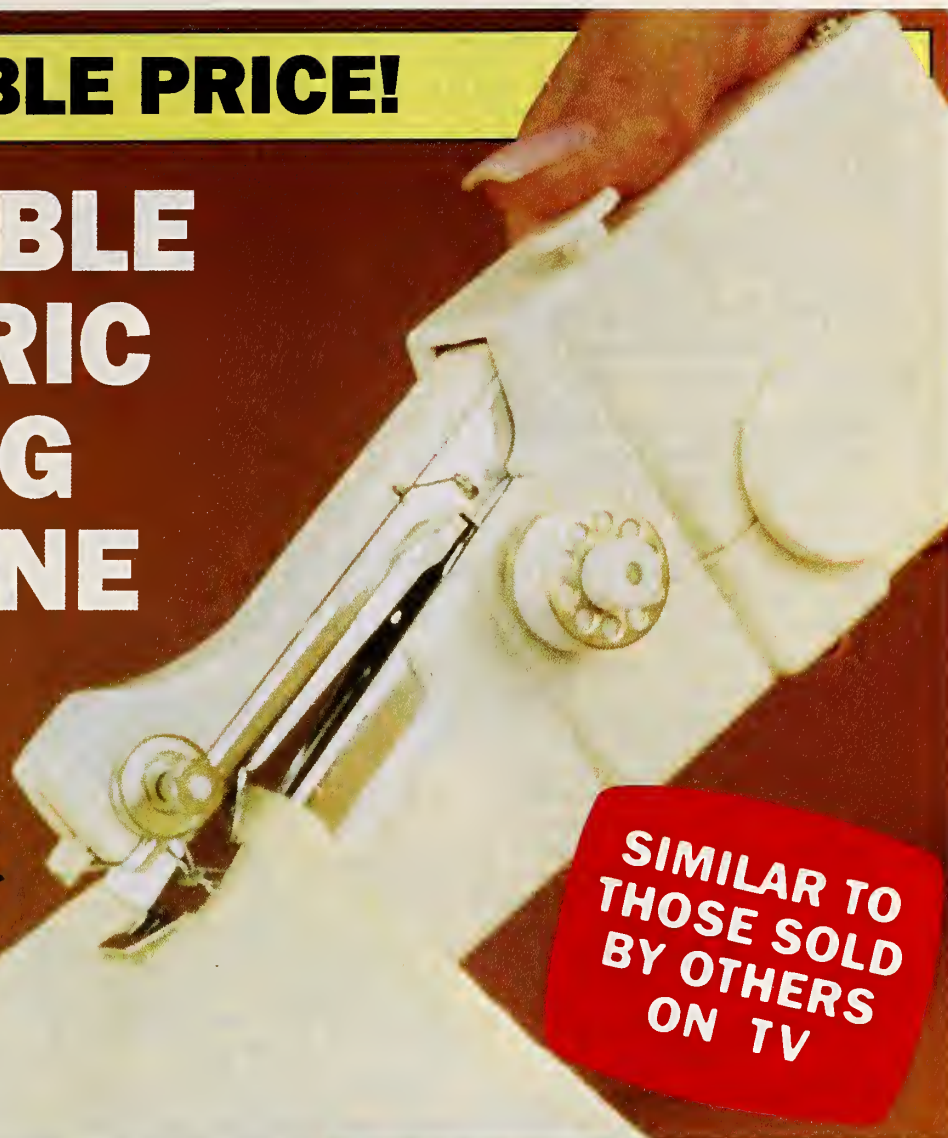
Consequently, even the simplest truths are now contested. We once commonly observed that birds of a feather flock together, but now some insist that flocking together in all-male groups is a pernicious evil to be proscribed by law. We used to teach our children that two wrongs don't make a right, but now many of our public institutions regularly discriminate in favor of women and minorities to atone for past injustice.

In the PC revolution, the wisdom of the ages has indeed been overthrown, and common sense has become a casualty. ☐

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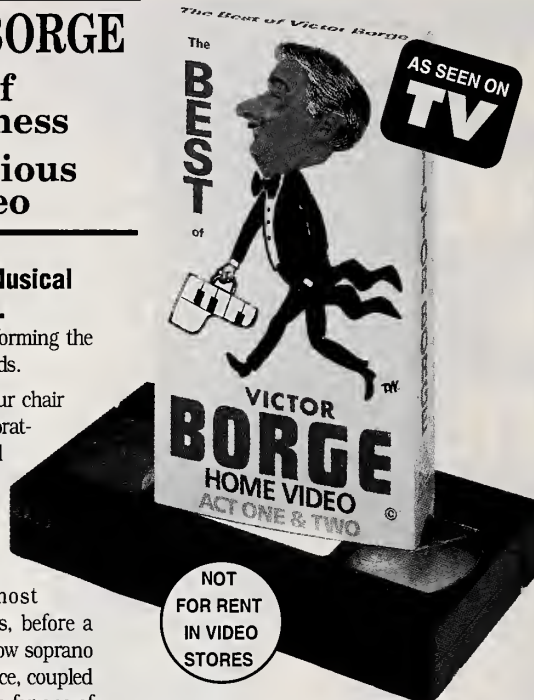
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FALL MEETING

Continued from page 28

executive and legislative branches of government and restrict the floor privileges of former Congressmen who become foreign or domestic lobbyists.

In addition, the bill would seek equivalent access for American lobbyists in countries who have lobbyists in the United States. Also, it would suggest favorable considerations be given those countries allowing equivalent access to American lobbyists.

Other NEC discussions included the continuing upward spiral of postage and other restrictions placed on non-profit organizations like The American Legion that depend on mailed literature to get information to their membership.

PNC Jake Comer urged the NEC to continue its support of the Korean War Memorial. The NEC presented Comer with combined donations from various Departments amounting to \$45,927.40.

The following program and policy resolutions were passed by the NEC:

- Res. 1 Urges reduction-in-force protection for military retirees working in the public sector.
- Res. 2 Supports legislation to provide CHAMPUS care as a second payer to Medicare for 100 percent disabled military retirees over the age of 65. Also urges full funding of CHAMPUS and opposes tripling CHAMPUS deductibles.
- Res. 3 Urges re-establishing the draft as a backup to the primary all-volunteer forces.
- Res. 4 Supports passage of the Omnibus Regulation of Lobbying Act.
- Res. 17 Authorizes The American Legion to join with the Kellogg Company in a two-state test in the Retinitis Pigmentosa Project.
- Res. 19 Adopts the six national education goals set forth by the 50 state governors and President George Bush.
- Res. 20 Opposes further constriction of veterans' medical care eligibility criteria.
- Res. 21 Opposes health care for civilians in VA facilities.
- Res. 22 Authorizes The American Legion to represent veterans before the Court of Veterans Appeals.
- Res. 23 Supports amending Title 38, USC, so that veterans who are eligible for inpatient care are also entitled to nursing home care.
- Res. 24 Supports Medicare reimbursement to individual VA medical centers.
- Res. 25 Urges Congress to provide sufficient funding for Department of Veterans Affairs medical research.
- Res. 29 Petitions the United States for relief from constantly rising postal rates.
- Res. 30 Authorizes the continuation of the Legion's Family Support Network.
- Res. 34 Urges the U.S. Postal System to issue a POW/MIA stamp.
- Res. 35 Urges the U.S. Postal System to issue a stamp recognizing The American Legion's 75th anniversary.
- Res. 36 Urges Legionnaires to support the restoration of the Mount Rushmore National Memorial.

A complete list of these resolutions and others passed during the Fall Meeting may be obtained from the Archives, American Legion National Headquarters, P.O. Box 1055, Indianapolis, IN 46206. By Ken Sharnberg

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BETHNA HARELD

Continued from page 35

Dr. Alfred Johnson of the Dallas Environmental Health Center, disagrees. He said detailed double-blind tests are indeed performed on his patients, unveiling a host of noxious "triggering" agents. Yet he cautioned that expensive nationwide studies demanded by the scientific community are best left to federal research.

Dr. Theron Randolph coined the term "clinical ecology" in the 1960s when his Chicago clinic was inundated with patients battling unorthodox combinations of debilitating symptoms. Having treated thousands of patients other doctors couldn't, he has no patience for skeptics.

"Our medical schools are churning out environmentally alienated physicians, and millions of people are not receiving care as a result," Randolph said. "Industry and science are trying to discredit MCS in every way possible because industry is largely responsible for the chemical contamination of our food, air and water supplies. It's sad that the medical community is unwill-

ing to accept what patients are telling them by the thousands."

Such lively sparring has provoked chemical manufacturers, industrial employers, insurers and government agencies which are anxious about the specter of costly lawsuits. One verdict cost a Mississippi pesticide firm \$250,000 for contaminating an entire family. Expensive out-of-court settlements are more common as lawyers tiptoe around legal precedents.

In 1990, the Chemical Manufacturers Association in Washington sent a brief to its 182 members, warning of the "potentially enormous cost" that might follow legal and medical legitimization of MCS.

Toxic exposures are traced to amazingly pedestrian sources, including such everyday substances as new carpet, household cleaners, pesticides, herbicides, office equipment, diesel exhaust, formaldehyde-cured, particle-board trailers and hosts of high-tech solvents. Most sufferers recall a single, "traumatic exposure," while others blame long-term, low-level exposures for chronic responses and subsequent multi-system breakdowns.

Another unfounded suspicion is that MCS victims are genetically predisposed to chemical sensitivities.

Please turn page

MCS AND AGENT ORANGE

Continued from page 35

tissue sarcoma and non-Hodgkins lymphoma are "as likely as not" linked to dioxin exposure. That decision went far to dismantle the bureaucratic webwork stalling benefits to ailing veterans.

That only five claims of nearly 37,000 filed have been approved, and that congressional clearance to release funds to those veterans is only weeks old simply underscores the pitch of the battle.

Similarly, a stumbling maze of red tape, bureaucratic sloth, imprecise science and sweeping medical skepticism seems fated to block relief to victims of chemical contamination.

Nonetheless, the MCS victims are encouraged by the veterans' saga. They take heart that mere acknowledgement of service-connected disabilities, together with the \$240 million settlement won by veterans against producers of Agent Orange, sets historic precedent.

Earon Davis, a lawyer and public health consultant to hundreds of

MCS victims, said the Agent Orange analogy speaks eloquently of the politics of progress.

"No question, the Agent Orange issue greatly helped advocates of MCS victims," he said. "Physicians can play games about counting numbers and researchers are well known for making distinctions that have no real-life relevance. But the veterans' progress has been made on the political level. They yelled and screamed and wouldn't be denied."

"In a pluralistic society," Davis said, "politics must move further and faster than science."

"To what extent we understand the biomedical nature of disease is very helpful. But by the time we have definitive data, half the people are dead. The fact these people are sick, on its own, is enough to demand action. It boils down to whether we're a just, honest and compassionate society, or whether veterans and MCS victims are expendable and we should just let them die."—D.H. □

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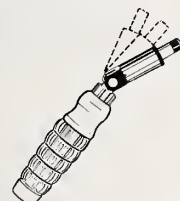
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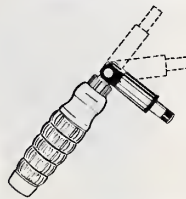
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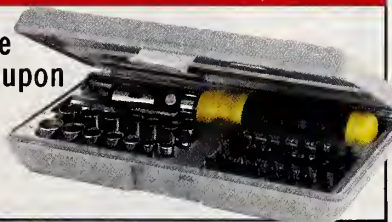
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BETHNA HARELD

Continued from page 72

Claudia S. Miller, an immunologist at the University of Texas Health Science Center, co-authored a pioneering study on MCS in 1989. The study termed MCS a "serious health and environmental problem," and urged public and private-sector action.

Miller suspects MCS is already epidemic, that millions of so-called walking wounded navigate a narrow threshold between health and crippling illness. To deprive MCS victims treatment and benefits while research plods along, she stressed, would be an act of gross national negligence.

"These people need help. Provisions must be made, either at work or through treatment to help them. We're at the same stage of denial we were with cancer 30 years ago," Miller said. "Potentially millions of people in their most productive years are no longer able to work or enjoy life. By protecting those most sensitive in society, we are protecting everybody."

For Bethna Hareld, the prospects for joy in life are remote.

She is thwarted in her attempts to get workmen's compensation and often is too feeble to fill out the reams of paperwork required for even stopgap assistance. Nonetheless, she presses on in a fight for recognition and care. Only through the generosity of anonymous donors has she scraped together enough to pay for vital antigen treatments that keep her alive.

But she daily battles the urge to succumb. "My faith is shaky," Hareld said. "I'm tired. It's just the wear and tear, the terrible weakness of this," she said with a sigh.

"I look forward to a miracle." ☐

TAPS

Taps Notices mention, whenever possible, those Legionnaires who have held high national or department office in the Legion or the U.S. government, or who have attained other forms of national prominence.

Elton "Andy" Ray Adams, WA Department Vice Commander (1978-79), Department Commander (1982-83), Department Historian (1986-88), Alternate National Executive Committeeman (1989-91), National Executive Committeeman (1991).

Robert W. Garlinger, NY Department Vice Commander (1964-65), Department Commander (1971-72), Alternate National Executive Committeeman (1972-73).

Carl Glenn Hamm, IA Department Vice Commander (1952-53), Department Commander (1954-55)

Ralph "Sonny" Jones, KS Alternate National Executive Committeeman (1988-90).

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SECRETS IN THIS BOOK

The answers in this book, which firmly link circulatory problems to human diseases, offer all of us new hope. One University test has already found that 85.3% of victims could actually lower their blood pressure in a special way, without any drugs. And cholesterol levels dropped 26%. Triglycerides, too.

Good blood circulation, this book reveals, should reach *every* portion of your body for optimum health. Accept as an iron-clad fact that a lowered blood pressure will offer you a longer life expectancy.

GET UNREPORTED DISCOVERIES

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- Many younger people now have high blood pressure. 66% of folks between 65 and 74 have it. Past age 75, it's 3 of 4. *Unnecessarily*.
- Salt is not the only villain. At all. Why it affects some—not others.
- Toxic metal poisoning can be a cause. Here's a test to find out.
- How HBP can ruin your sex life. What to do.
- 9 home tests you can use to detect upcoming circulatory problems.
- 1 of 2 Americans have a danger zone cholesterol level.
- Many cardiovascular medicines . . . plus aspirin, laxatives, caffeine, sleeping pills, and some diets can deplete critical nutrients. The book has a list.
- 3 best forms of exercise to alleviate high blood pressure.

- The one unsuspected food which makes blood pressure shoot up.
- Why relieving blood pressure so often helps with hemorrhoids, appendicitis, colon cancer . . . and helps weight loss.
- What 156/84 actually means. (Do you know?)
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This book contains many new breakthroughs: *Rutgers University*. Boston University Medical Center. *Pritiken Longevity Center*. American Heart Ass'n. *The Seventh Day Adventist Church*. Central Institute for Cardiovascular Research. *Chinese folk herbalists*. Mayo Foundation. *The Australian Medical Ass'n*. Maryland School of Medicine. All have put forth many of the discoveries revealed in this timely book.

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SELF-EMPLOYMENT

Continued from page 43

ing the flow of clear profits.

Some 60 percent of self-employed women and 44 percent of self-employed men work in service businesses such as the Elliotts' laundromat, labor economist Devine said. But the workload isn't any lighter in other businesses that sell a product—even a hot invention that grabs attention the moment it is created.

Jack Saporito, 43, was intrigued by a gizmo he saw during a fishing vacation in Eagle River, Wis. The inventor, Gordy Merkel, "is the kind of guy who can fix anything that's broken," Saporito said. Merkel's invention was a stand for residential mailboxes that would protect them from snowplows and vandals.

Saporito, from suburban Arlington Heights, Ill., had never realized how much country residents needed such protection. But as he drove home from the resort, he saw hundreds of knocked down mailboxes. Merkel's idea was to attach the mailbox to a swinging horizontal bar jutting out from a vertical

post anchored in the ground 40 inches in from the curb.

Plows hitting a mailbox on Merkel's stand—or vandals driving by with baseball bats—simply knock it aside without damaging the post. Mail deliverers can then easily pull it back into position using a hook from their delivery vans.

The fledgling business began by distributing flyers in northwestern Chicago in November 1988, "anywhere there was a car and a mailbox," Saporito said. People who called for a demonstration—about one in 50 of those who got a flyer—were impressed: "Almost 80 percent of those who saw it bought it," Saporito says.

Five years after Saporito first saw the invention, he figures it will take another six months to get the mailbox stand to market. His savings low, he has taken a part-time janitorial job. His small company, Boot Lake Industries (named after the lake where he learned about Merkel), needs \$300,000 to finance the start-up.

Saporito was an Army med-evac specialist based in Qui Nhon, Vietnam, in the late 1960s. "We got sniped at a lot," he said. Dealing with that combat stress has helped him handle the hassles of starting his own business and surviving on three hours of sleep a night.

Other veterans agree that their time in the service has given them advantages when they began going it alone. "I learned not to be afraid," said Rose Ora Stewart of Jersey City, N.J., who joined the Navy in 1953 and retired as a data processing chief in 1975. She said the computer skills she learned in the service laid the foundation for her current work as assistant vice president with the Bank of New York.

Another skill Stewart learned in the Navy got her started on the path to self-employment. Stewart was on vacation at an inn owned by a couple near Lake George in upstate New York. Their son was having trouble buffing the floor of a basement bar called the Churchill Pub. Stewart had learned to run the heavy buffing machine in Navy boot camp, so she took over the job.

"I could do it with two fingers," she said. "After that I was invited back regularly to buff the floor of the Churchill Pub." And during one of those visits, she heard about a 10-cabin motel for sale.

To pull off the deal, she sold a rental house she owned, cashed in some bonds, sold her insurance policies and "everything I could get my hands on." On opening day, with her parents installed as proprietors, the motel had no

Please turn page

Advertisement

Did You Make This Mistake In Writing Your Will?

Canton, OH (Special) You can spend money for a Will only to have a substantial part of your assets needlessly taken by lawyers, courts and executors through the probate process.

Why should you avoid probate? Simple. It costs too much and takes too long. Probate also creates an "invasion of your family's financial privacy!"

Probate can slice up to 10% from an estate and take months or years for settlement.

In fact, the only thing worse than a Will for the average wage earner is the nightmare created by no Will at all. Because then the State decides who gets everything you own.

Now there's a far better way to protect your estate than having only a Will. A new study reveals that a Living Trust is a low-cost alternative to probating a Will, even for an average sized estate.

Today you can eliminate costly, time-consuming probate and legal fees by using a simple legal paper called a revocable Living Trust. It avoids probate attorney, managerial and court fees because there is no Will to probate. Your family suffers no expense or settlement delays. And since a Living Trust is revocable, you can change your mind at any time about trustees and who gets your assets. Unlike a Will the estate goes at once to whomever you name -- in complete secrecy.

The many advantages of a Living Trust for the average-sized estate has been praised by estate planners and reported in financial publications like The

Wall Street Journal, Business Week, Money, to name a few. You simply transfer all your assets into a Living Trust and name yourself or anyone you want as trustees.

Lawyers can charge an average of \$60 for writing a Will -- and then can get up to 10% for probate. It's smart to set up a Living Trust.

Working with a team of legal scholars, DSA Financial Publishing Corp. of Canton, Ohio has prepared a Living Trust Kit designed so you can easily set up your own Living Trust. You'll get complete instructions written in easy-to-understand language, plus illustrated step-by-step forms. You also get complete guidelines on how to custom tailor your personal Living Trust so that any special wishes you may have for your estate are carried out.

It's easy to get your Living Trust Kit. All you have to do is send a check or money order in the amount of \$19.95 plus \$2 postage and handling or charge to your VISA/Mastercard by including account number and expiration date to: DSA Financial Publishing Corp., Dept. W3545, 708 - 12th Street N.W., Canton, Ohio 44703. For even faster service, VISA/Mastercard or C.O.D., call toll free 1-800-321-0888, Ext. W3545.

Want to save even more? Do a favor for a close relative or friend and order a second Kit at a \$10 savings. That's 2 for only \$31.95. A 90 day money back guarantee is naturally offered. Do it now . . . while there is still time to protect your loved ones.

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If You're At Least 50 Years Old... You Deserve A Break!

Uncle Bernie

That's right! I'm Uncle Bernie and if you're at least 50 years old like me, you can start buying all the merchandise you want at unbelievable wholesale prices right now! The prices in this ad are just a sample of the savings, and if you've never seen true wholesale prices before, you're probably amazed! Did you know that stores normally charge you **DOUBLE** their wholesale price on the products you buy? Surprise! Mail order companies make that look like a bargain! You can pay them as much as **10 TIMES** the original product cost or more. How else do you think they can afford to mail out **BILLIONS OF DOLLARS** of junk mail every year? And where does it end up? Most of mine gets tossed in the garbage. That's no way to spend your hard earned money! With my club, you'll have a way to get the same products at wholesale, or below wholesale **ALL THE TIME!**

Here's How It Works

By collecting a small membership fee from all my customers, I can afford to mail you a catalog that will let you buy wholesale for one full year, pay for this ad, and make a small profit **WITHOUT** charging you a fortune for the products you want. And because I'm running this nationwide membership drive, you can even save **50%** on your membership fee if you join before February 20, 1992. You pay just \$10 (not \$20) for a full One-Year Membership. That gives you **ALL** the benefits right away including the savings on the products in this ad. Remember, you must be at least 50 years old to join. After all, us older folks deserve a break after all these years!

I Like Makin' Things Easy

With my 50 Plus Wholesale Club, there are no gimmicks or strings attached. You don't owe me anything once you're a member! You buy any products you want, when you want them and as much or as little as you want! It's that easy.

The Savings Don't End Here!

Once you get a taste of buying wholesale, you'll never want to pay retail prices again! As a member of Uncle Bernie's 50 Plus Wholesale Club, you'll receive a complete up to the minute catalog loaded with items at wholesale or below wholesale prices. Each item in the catalog, like the products in this ad, has been carefully selected for its quality, performance, uniqueness and popularity! You'll recognize many of the items from other mail order companies and even TV commercials. The only difference is, **YOU WON'T BELIEVE THE PRICES!**

Everything's Guaranteed!

I sell only top quality merchandise. But, if you're not happy with anything, just send it back and I'll send you your money. And if you're not happy with my club for any reason, I'll send your ten bucks back too. There's no way you can lose!

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Yes Uncle Bernie! I'm at least 50 years old like you and I deserve a break. Enroll me in your 50 Plus Wholesale Club today!

Start my Savings with the following order:

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Multi-Blade Wipers	\$1 Pair	50¢		
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Rolling Ruler	\$1	50¢		
Sandwich Maker	\$10	\$3		

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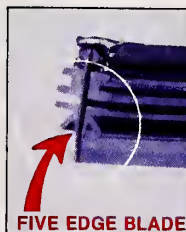
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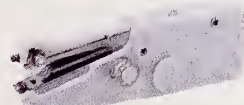
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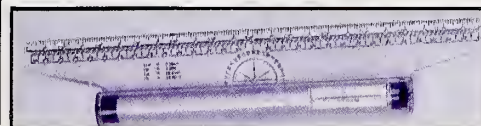
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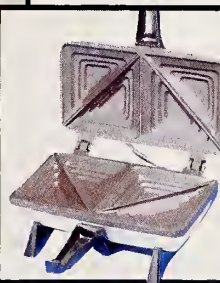


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SELF-EMPLOYMENT

Continued from page 76

printed forms. "We gave out the first receipt on a paper napkin," Stewart said.

Stewart is now owner or part owner of three businesses and regularly speaks at conferences to help other veterans get started.

It's not unusual for one foray into self-employment to lead to others. Thomas S. Honsa, 66, of Moline, Ill., had been a successful dentist for more than 30 years when one of his patients propelled him into a new business.

The patient mentioned that the federal government was becoming more concerned about damage to the human body from vibrating power tools such as pneumatic chipping hammers. Honsa immediately bought one of the hammers and took it apart in his basement. After a couple of hours, with the pieces spread around him, he realized suddenly how to reduce the shaking that can cause nerve damage in operator's hands.

The former World War II bomber crew man realized the shocks to the hand were the result of movements of a piston slamming back and forth from 800 to 6,000 times a minute. In an instant, Honsa knew he could isolate the piston from the trigger hand with the use of elastomers, rubberlike materials he was already using in his practice to absorb shock under dentures.

"I kept my mouth shut about the idea," he said, as he went from junkyards to machine shops to get help building a prototype. When it was done, "you could barely feel the tool running," he said. Tests showed that vibration had been reduced by 97 percent.

After building the first tool, Honsa moved to the more time-consuming process of building his business and winning half a dozen patents. He expected Honsa Ergonomic Technologies Inc., with 10 employees including his son, to gross \$1.5 million in 1991.

Like most self-employed people, Honsa has little time for recreation. He's lost his desire for golf. "It's a waste of time," he said. "I know I'll never beat Arnold Palmer." These days he finds fishing in the Mississippi River "more work than it's worth." But work-

ing on a new business is never tiresome. "I'm the kind of person who has to keep the pot stirred," he said.

Whether pot-stirring leads to pots of gold depends on hard work, good ideas and lots of patience, according to today's new breed of entrepreneurs. They offered these tips to those who want to start a business:

- Don't fall for get-rich-quick schemes. If a commercial opportunity sounds too good to be true, it probably is.

- Get all the help you can from the SBA or organizations like SCORE, the Service Corps of Retired Executives.

- Enlist the support of a tax expert, an insurance agent and a banker, and pay close heed to their advice on book-keeping and business basics. Inattention to such back-office details often torpedoes small businesses within their first year or so.

- Before you quit your current job, figure out how much you will need to make to cover your existing benefits. Typically, health and life insurance and vacation pay amount about 20 percent to 30 percent of your salary.

Not that you'll get many vacations: Your new boss doesn't believe in them. □

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Senior Citizens with Money in the Bank should Read This before it's Too Late

If you have worked hard all your life and managed to put away a nest egg, you might end up losing most of your life savings because of a defect in Medicare.

If you or your spouse suddenly become ill and require extended nursing home care... NO ONE will help you with the nursing home bills. Medicare won't and neither will your health insurance. By law you are responsible for the nursing home bills yourself. Only after you have used up virtually all of your money, will Medicaid step in. That's because Medicaid, like Welfare, only aids the poor. By some estimates, the average couple's life savings can be wiped out after only 13 weeks of nursing home care.

Rich people don't have to worry because they can afford super-expensive special nursing home insurance, while the poor are taken care of by Medicaid.

Now that just doesn't seem fair to working people with a lifetime of hard-earned savings. The system they have supported with tax dollars, seems to have forgotten them. Savings intended to provide security in retirement, or help for children, can quickly go up in smoke.

The fact is, if you don't know how to protect your assets, here's what can happen to you. By law, before Medicaid will pay nursing home bills, you have to spend all your countable assets except \$2000 (or as low as \$1500 in some states.) Countable assets mean not only money in checking and savings accounts... but also any funds in CD's, IRA's, Savings Bonds, Mutual Funds, stocks, whole life insurance, annuities and other types of investments.

They can also take a vacation home or a second

car. In addition, your entire Social Security or pension check can be taken to cover nursing home expenses. What's more, if you are single or widowed, you can even lose your house.

According to the federal law called the Spousal Impoverishment Act of 1988, if one spouse requires extended nursing home care, the healthy spouse can be forced to surrender HALF of their combined countable assets. And if you have a sizable estate, they can legally take MORE THAN HALF.

Is there anything you can do to stop this nightmare from happening to you? Yes. You are protected by law and can use several legal techniques to place your countable (or vulnerable) assets into the uncountable (or protected) category. The problem is, most people are not aware of their legal rights. Unfortunately, most people think Medicare will take care of them, so they unknowingly leave their assets vulnerable and in jeopardy.

Your legal rights and the many methods of protecting your money are now revealed in "How to Protect Your Financial Security." This financial self-defense manual tells you simple legal procedures for preserving your money and warns of pitfalls to avoid. Here is some of the valuable material you learn:

- Four legal ways to turn countable (or vulnerable) assets into uncountable (or protected) assets
- How to protect your house from being sold to pay nursing home bills
- How to protect a second car or vacation home
- If you give your money to your children without following these precise guidelines, a nursing

home could get your money anyhow

- This type of bank account can prevent a nursing home from touching it
- This common legal mistake can stop you or your spouse from receiving emergency medical care
- What you need to know about Living Trusts
- How to prevent your bank account from being frozen if you enter a nursing home
- What lawyers don't tell about protecting wills

As a hard-working taxpayer, you have a legal right to protect your life savings for yourself, your spouse or your heirs. You don't have to be rich to have peace of mind. You just have to follow the easy steps outlined in "How to Protect Your Financial Security."

Although "How to Protect Your Financial Security" can easily save you thousands of dollars, the price is very reasonable. Right now, you can receive a special press run for only \$8.95 plus \$1.00 postage and handling. It is not available in any bookstore. It is only available through this special offer on a 90 day Money Back Guarantee. If you are dissatisfied in any way, just return it in 90 days for a full refund, no questions asked.

HERE'S HOW TO ORDER: just print your name and address and the words "Financial Security" on a piece of paper and mail it along with a check or money order for only \$9.95 to: THE LEADER CO., INC., Publishing Division, Dept. AB305, P.O. Box 8347, Canton, OH 44711. (Make checks payable to The Leader Co., Inc.) VISA or MasterCard, send card number and expiration date. Act now. Don't leave your assets in jeopardy. ©1992 The Leader Co., Inc.

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I count 3 or more YES answers

If you count 3 or more YES answers, fill in the coupon below and send it to me. Send no money. For you, it is completely free. Nothing will be claimed for these revelations. Don't forget to include your place and date of birth, and I

will send you:

- 1 - Your Golden Astral Number
- 2 - A two page document on your astral theme
- 3 - Your favorable dates for betting or buying tickets - and also for love and romance.
- 4 - A method for possible solutions to your problem.

All this free of charge. Reply within 10 days. Luck is within reach, but you will never know if you don't try my method now. All you have to do is mail the coupon below. Do not delay. Your happiness and your family's depend on it.

Nathalie Bardot

This message is only for those who have never won anything at the races, lotto or other lotteries...or who have only won insignificant amounts (less than \$100).

This message is also for those of you who believe it is impossible to win several thousand dollars and think that their life will never be anything but a succession of dull, sad days.

Help yourself and
heaven will help you

Despair no more

It is a fact that luck strikes most often when it is least expected. Reading this message is the first step. Luck is about to come your way. Perhaps you were to read this message.

Looking back on all the important moments of your life, you might have noticed that a certain number - different from other people's numbers - reoccurs over and over again. Those who understand the message and who recognize their Golden Number have been known to win thousands at the races, lotto or lotteries.

I wish to reach those of you who - for various reasons - have not grasped this message.

Your golden number

Scientists admit that planetary positions on our birthdate influences our lives, our behavior and the right - and wrong - decisions we make. Now, more and more people recognize that a particular number will also influence our lives. Some assert that this number is the visible sign - much like a mystical presence - through which the infinite intelligence helps us...proving that we are not totally on our own.

If you have read, as I have, statements made by big time winners (over \$1,000,000), then you know they very often admit to having been helped by being dictated all or some of the numbers. They will acknowledge this fact openly though some may not believe them.

The more specialized media will also prove to you that an incredible amount of people have won hundreds and thousands they never could have hoped to win - thanks to their personal lucky number. They often talk and write about it.

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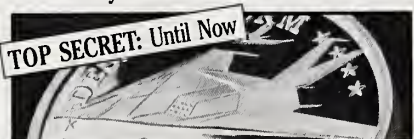


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TOUGHEST JOB

Continued from page 33

A. Yes, I share the view that it is whittling too much. On the other hand, the foreign affairs performance of the President has caused some members of Congress and the public to reassess this issue. And perhaps they are now a little more comfortable with leaving to the President what I regard as his proper role of leadership in this area.

I do think Congress has had some legitimate criticism of Presidents who have not consulted with members sufficiently in crises. Even so, that should not lead to reducing the power of the President to act when prompt action is needed. There are better ways to address the consultation problem.

Q. You mentioned that almost every problem in this country, if not in the world, finally winds up on the President's desk.

A. And we're talking about more than numbers. Most of those problems are very complex. Most have strong adherents on both sides of an issue. So they become very divisive in terms of public opinion and lobbying pressures. These issues require a presidential grasp of essentials that is very difficult for one individual to master.

Q. This puts the spotlight on the President's staff, its quality and the way it's structured. Do you think this is adequate for the tremendous challenge he faces?

A. One of the greatest variables in our government, in my view, is the quality of the White House staff.

We have had some absolutely superb people. I particularly remember Andy Goodpaster who was chief of staff to President Eisenhower. He was a real gem for that role. His integrity was unquestioned. He did not color information from departments and agencies with his own views, and his own views were clearly stated as his own independent judgments. He was able to convey to the President the views and judgments of members of the Cabinet on an objective basis. On the other hand, we have had in the not-too-distant past White House staffers who have served very poorly, and at great cost to the President.

Q. Is the main problem the quality
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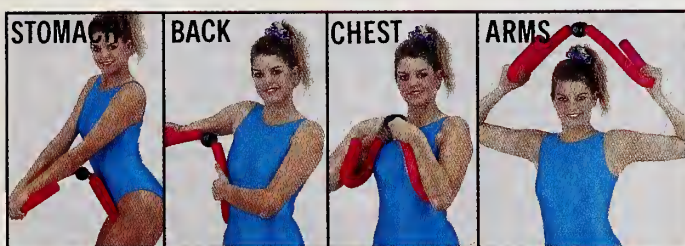
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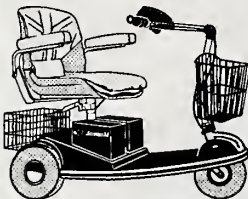
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TOUGHEST JOB

Continued from page 82

of people or the way the staff is organized?

A. In most instances it is the quality of people, although there are some elements of the organization which should also be changed.

Q. Didn't the present staff structure largely stem from Eisenhower's military management style?

A. Yes, but the highly organized approach of President Eisenhower that was useful for him in both the national security and domestic areas was not followed very carefully later—although the basics of the Eisenhower influence survives.

When President Kennedy came in, he needed a different approach and immediately ushered in a very different style. As a matter of fact, I think he initially went much too far in the other direction; then, after the Bay of Pigs and other mishaps very early in his administration, he moved quickly back toward a more workable arrangement, although much less formal than the Eisenhower White House.

Q. You've been a part of seven administrations where you've worked in or near the White House. Were any of them particularly bad in terms of how they operated?

A. I thought that the national security problems at the beginning of the Kennedy administration were quite serious. On the other hand, I was impressed with how rapidly Kennedy redressed those problems and got the National Security Council working well under the capable leadership of McGeorge Bundy.

A different version of ineffective White House national security operations occurred for a longer period in the middle of the Reagan administration. Again, its ineffectiveness was quickly restored under the highly able team of Frank Carlucci and Colin Powell.

And of course, the Watergate period was clearly a serious time of misguided White House operations. That is surprising because President Nixon probably had the best grasp of recent Presidents for how government works. He put major emphasis on improving the effectiveness of government during his first term despite special interest pres-

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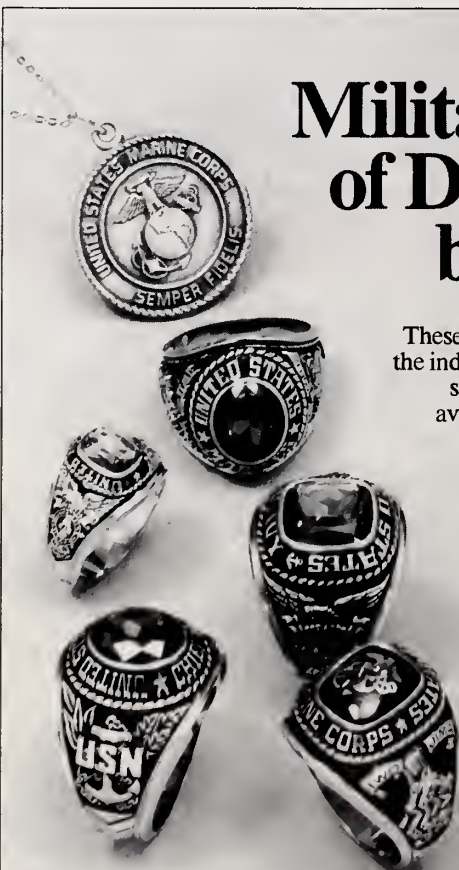
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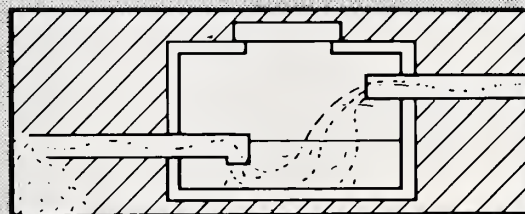
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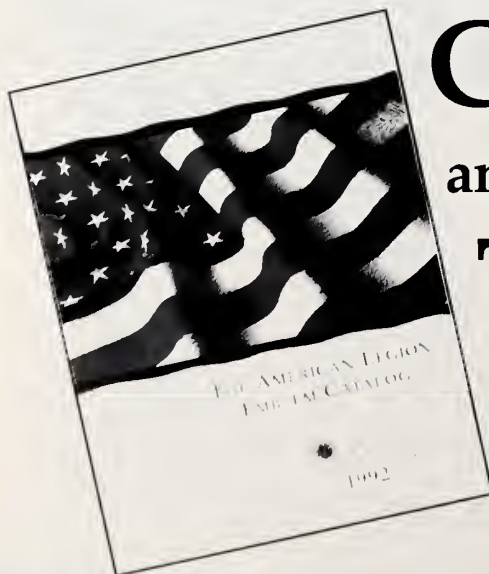
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TOUGHEST JOB

Continued from page 84

sure—gains that began to fade with the onset of Watergate.

Q. What's the toughest part of the President's job?

A. That depends very much on the period of time. When there are international crises, as during Desert Shield and Desert Storm, then the toughest part is developing consensus within Congress and the Free World on a course of action. This is tremendously intricate and difficult. And keep in mind the contrasting cultures and political systems overseas that were drawn together in that instance.

In the absence of an international crisis, then clearly the focus of the President has to be on domestic issues. When you have limited resources, like now, there is an increasing clamor by all kinds of special interest groups to get their share of a shrinking pie. And those pressures descend on everyone in both the executive and legislative branches.

Q. Isn't there a basic conflict between the President's role as leader of a political party and as leader of all Americans?

A. Yes. I feel that his role with his party has to be subordinated to his role as President of the entire country, but he does have unavoidable political responsibilities.

Q. Does that create conflicts?

A. I would say that most Presidents do a better job than one might expect in view of the political pressures that are brought to bear on them. Think how strongly the precinct workers and local leaders that support the winning candidate feel that his loyalty ought to be to them, the party faithful. That view is understandable, but it is a mistake. I am very much opposed to the awarding of government contracts, grants and jobs being influenced by the political affiliation of recipients. The people deserve competence in government, not political payoffs.

Q. Do the American people expect too much of the President in solving national and world problems?

A. We do have unrealistic expectations of what a President can do as an individual. There are circumstances when a President can do a great deal, as

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TOUGHEST JOB

Continued from page 86

President Roosevelt did during the Depression and President Bush did during Desert Storm. But in the normal scheme of things, many problems are almost intractable in the short term. And our government system is so purposefully divided that the President cannot take the decisive actions that we would often like to see him take.

Q. Are you worried about an imperial presidency—of a President becoming, in effect, a dictator under certain conditions?

A. No, I think we have enough checks and balances within our government—plus a free press and a well-informed citizenry.

Q. How much does constant criticism by the news media contribute to the difficulties of the President?

A. It contributes a great deal. On the other hand, it is also our best safeguard against moving toward an imperial presidency.

Q. How are ordinary citizens involved in all this?

A. Much of the red tape that we talk about when we complain about the slowness and cost of government is generated by us as citizens, generally through the organizations to which we belong. Our organizations can well be striving for very good things, whether they be health or veterans' benefits or whatever.

But in each instance, since we generally have to fight hard for those gains, we want to protect them once they're achieved. And we protect them in many ways by more regulations, more processes, more procedures. The cumulative impact of that cumulative process over time, as we pass hundreds of laws and hundreds of regulations, is an environment within which the federal manager finds it very, very difficult to be effective. Then, we turn around and blame that same bureaucrat for lack of initiative and creativity.

Q. Shouldn't more emphasis go into picking people for top government jobs on the basis of their ability to govern?


A. Definitely. I have urged that the Senate, in its confirmation hear-

ings on cabinet appointments, give more attention to the way in which such people plan to manage their organization. At the same time, Congress shouldn't get into prescribing the operational details because that's micromanagement, which poses another handicap to a President and his staff.

Q. Shouldn't the public apply that to the President, too?

A. Strangely, our whole process of nominating and electing Presidents emphasizes all kinds of things except the one area which is most clearly set forth in our Constitution—that of Chief Executive. We say the President should be a great political party leader and every other sort of thing, but when the balloons are going up at the nominating conventions, his role as Chief Manager is never mentioned. Never does it emerge in the presidential debates. Never in the news analyses. It is totally outside our process of choosing Presidents.

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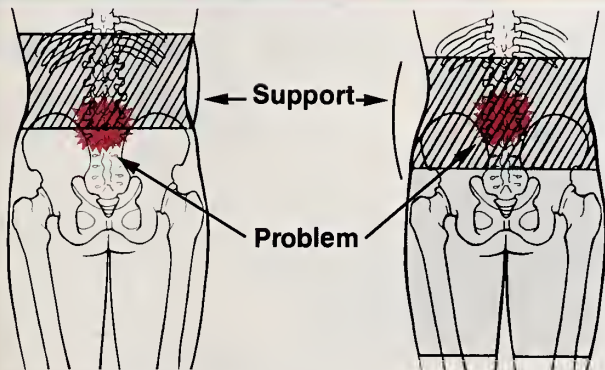
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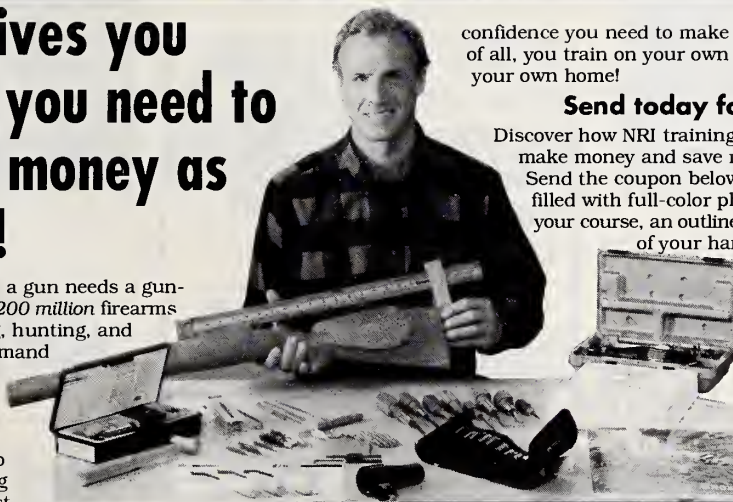
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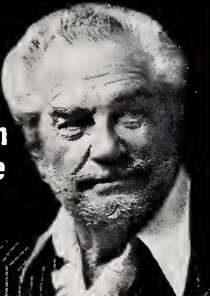
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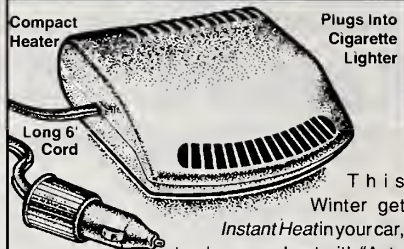
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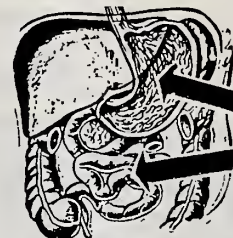
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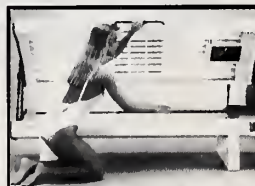
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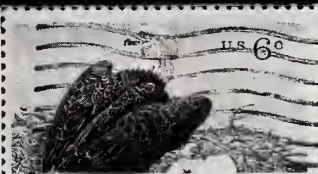
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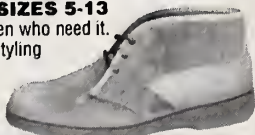


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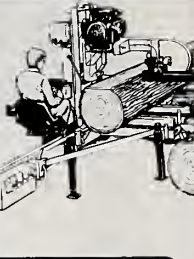
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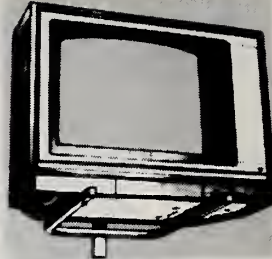
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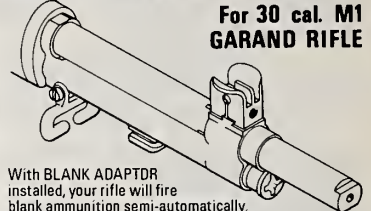
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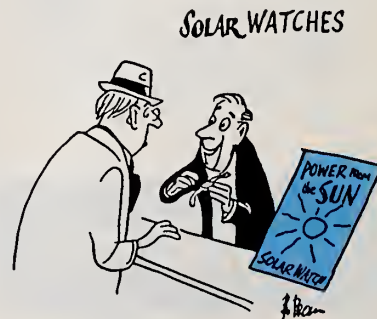
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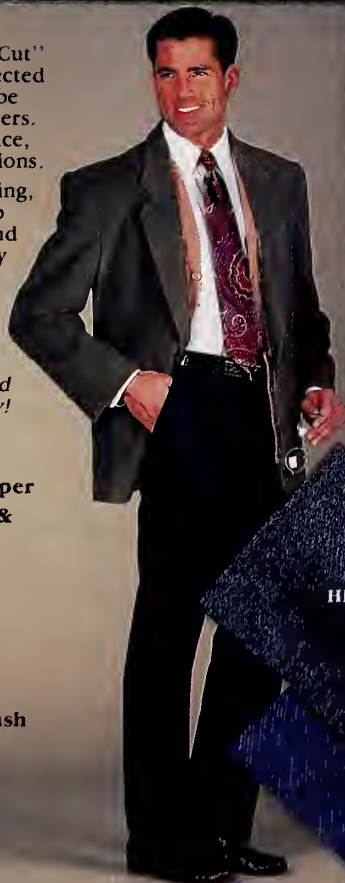
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